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Volume lettered:
VIRGINIA
BUNDLE W
NUMB^S 122 – 234

(original papers 1753–1754 and one of 1755)

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Colonial Office Class 5. Volume 1328.

At the Court at Kensington

the 10th day of August 1753

Present

The Kings most Excellent Majesty

in Council

Upon reading this day at the Board, a Report from the Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Council for Plantation Affairs dated the 7th of this Instant, in the words following Viz.t

"Your Majesty having been pleased, by your Order "in Council of the 7th of March last, to refer unto this "Committee, an Extract of a Letter from Robert Dinwid- "die Esq.r Lieut. Gov.r of your Majesty's Colony of Virginia "to the Lords Commiss.rs for Trade and Plantations, relat- "ing the Utility of Building some Forts upon the "Ohio River in the Western part of that Colony, for "the Security and Protection of your Majesty's Subjects "and of the Indians in Alliance with your Majesty "and praying, that Twenty or Thirty Cannon Nine "pounders may be forthwith sent from hence to "place in the said Forts — The Lords of the Com- "mittee, in Obedience to your Majesty's said Order "of Reference, did some time since, take the said "Extract of a Letter, into their Consideration, together "with a Report made by the Lords Commiss.rs for

"Trade and Plantations relating thereto, and finding
that the said Forts are intended for the Defence of
"a valuable and extensive part of your Majesty's
"Dominions, and for the Security and protection of
"your Majesty's Subjects, and the Indians in Amity
"with your Majesty — Their Lordships therefore thought
proper to Direct the Lieut Genl and the rest of the
[p2]
"principal Officers of the Ordnance to prepare an Esti-
"mate of the Expence of Thirty Cannon Three pounders
"and Stores proportionable for them — Whereupon the
"said Lieut Genl and the rest of the Principal
"Officers of the Ordnance have Reported to this Com-
"mittee that there are no three pounder Ordnance
"in your Majesty's Stores proper for Land Service, being
"much too Short, to be mounted on standing Carria-
"ges; But that they can furnish the required Number
"of Four pounder Ordnance of Six Feet which they
"are of Opinion will Answer the End proposed
"much better; and that they had therefore pre-
"pared an Estimate of the Expence of Thirty Can-
"non Four pounders with a proper proportion of
"Stores to accompany them — The Lords of the Com-
"mittee having considered thereof, do agree humbly
"to lay the said Estimate before your Majesty, a-
"mounting to One thousand One hundred and
"Ninety Six pounds Ten Shillings and Eleven pence

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"and to offer as their Opinion, that your Ma.
"jesty may be pleased to Order the Thirty Cannon
"of Four pounders and Stores contained therein.
"to be sent to your Majesty's said Colony of Vir.
"ginia for the use of the said Forts. —
His Majesty in Council taking the said Report in
to Consideration, was pleased to Approve of what
is therein proposed, and accordingly to Order as it
is hereby Ordered that the thirty Cannon of Four
pounders with the Proportion of Stores contained
in the Paper hereunto annexed, the Expence where-
of as Estimated by the Board of Ordnance amounts
One Thousand One hundred and Ninety Six pounds Ten
Shillings and Eleven ... be forthwith sent to the said Colo.
ny of Virginia for the use of the said Forts. And that
the Expence thereof be made an Article in the next
Estimate that shall be prepared by the Board of
Ordnance to be laid before the Parliament — And
the Lieutenant General and Principal Officers of the
Ordnance are to cause the necessary Directions to
be given herein accordingly. —

a true Copy
W: Sharpe

Ex.

[1]

Estimate of the Expence of thirty Cannon of four pound.ers. with a proper proportion of Stores for the use of the Forts proposed to be built up.: on the Ohio River in Virginia, prepared pursuant to an Order of the Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Council for plantation Affairs dated the 15th of May 1753 –

		№	£	s	d
Iron Ordnance – – –	4 Pounders of 6 Feet –	30	600	–	–
Standing Carriages compleat with Iron Trucks –	4 Pounders – –	30			
Ladles with Staves	4 Pdrs – – –	10	24	3	9
Sponges with Staves & Rammers	4 Pdrs – – –	30			
Wadhookes with Rammers	4 Pdrs – – –	15			
Formers	4 Pdrs – – –	3			
Paper Cartridges 130 Rounds	4 Pdrs – – –	3900			
Copper Powder Measures	4 Pdrs – – –	3			

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				£	s	d
Round Shot, 100 Rounds to Pdr			3000			
Grapes compleat with Wooden Tampeons & Pins 30 Rounds to Pdr			900	202	18	6
Match		Qnt.	3			
Aprons of Lead			30			
Powder Horns			30	8	1	-
Priming Irons			60			
Lindstocks without Cocks			10			
Budge Barrels Copper Hoop'd			4			
Handspikes			60	14	3	-
Crows of Iron		4½ Feet	6			
Handscrew		Small	1			
Hair Cloths			6			
Tann'd Hides			0			
Sheepskins			24			
Spungetacks			1500	26	2	2
Copper Nails for Ladles			20			
Small Hammers			4			
Triangle Gyn			1			
Iron Gyn Blocks with Brass Shivers		Treble	1			
		Double	1	13	-	-
White Rope of	5 Inches		5			
	3½ Fathoms		11			
Carried forward				£ 888	8	5

	Nº	£	s	d
Brought Forward	—	988	8	5
Tarrid Marline — Skeins	6			
Tanthorns Muscovy	2			
Tanthorns Tin	5			
Tanthorns Bark	5	3	14	6
Tallow — Ø: 2: 8	0: 2: 0			
Funnels of Plate	3			
Pickaxes helved	10			
Shovels shod	20			
Spades shod with Iron	20	8	15	-
Hand Bills	10			
Hand Hatchers	10			
Felling Axes	4			
Wheel Barrows	10			
Hand Barrows	6			
Sling Cart	1	31	8	-
Pry Pole and Pawl	1			
Handspikes for Dº	2			
White Rope of 3 Inches	2			
White Rope of 1 Fathoms	3			
	£	932	5	11
Freight and Incidents		264	5	-
	£	1196	10	11

Mem.ª:- No powder is hereinmentioned as it is apprehended the Colony is supplied therewith from the powder Duty -

Office of Ordnance
14th August 1753

Endorsed. Virginia / Copy of an Order of Council, / dated 9th of August 1753, / approving a Report of ye Lords / of the Committee of Council for / Plantation affairs dated the 7th / Ditto, / directing Thirty Canon of / four Pounders with the proportion / of Stores contained in the Estimate / annexed, to be sent for the Use of the / Forts proposd to be built on the River / Ohio in Virginia, &c.ª / Rec.d Augt. 22d. / Read Novr. 16 / 1753 / W. 122. / 3.

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[P.S.]

Williamsburg Virginia Novr 17th 1753

Right Honble:

My last to you was the 16th June, to which I beg to be referrd: In that I acquainted You of the Accounts we have had of the French, with the Indians in their Interest, invading his Majestys Lands on the River Ohio.

The Person sent by the Comissioner to the Comandant of the French Forces, neglected his Duty & went no further than Logstown on the Ohio, reports the French were then one hundred & fifty Miles further up that River, & I believe was afraid to go to them.

On the Application of the Indians in Friendship with us on the Ohio; I sent Mr William Trent, with Guns, Powder, & Shott, to them with some Clothing, & enclosd I send You his Report & Conferences with these People, on his delivering them the Present.

I also desird some of the Twightwee Chiefs, & some of the Six Nations, to meet William Fairfax Esqr, a Comissioner I sent to Winchester, to deliver them some Guns, Powder, Shott, & Clothing, they met accordingly, & enclos'd I transmit You his Report &c. thereon; he had my Orders to invite them next May, to receive a considerable Present from their Father, the King of Great Britain; they accordingly have promis'd to meet there at that Time, & as the Present is arrivd here, I propose going in Person to deliver it, & at same Time shall invite the Cherokees, Catawbas, & Chicesaws; as there has been some Differences among the different Tribes, I propose reconciling them together, after which, shall endeavour to bring

C.O. 5/1328

them into a firm & strong Alliance with His Majesty, & His Subjects in this Part of the World.

[Va.] I have receiv'd, by a Man War Sloop, Orders from the Right Hon.ble Earl of Holderness, & Instruction from His Majesty; in Consequence thereof, I have sent one of the Adjutants of the Militia here, out to the Comander of the French Forces, to know their Intentions, & by what Authority they presume to invade His Majestys Dominions in the Time of tranquil Peace; when he returns I shall transmit You an Account of his Proceedings, & the French Comanders Answer.

Our Assembly is now Sitting, in my Speech to them, I strongly represented the Necessity, at this Time of a proper Supply, in Case the French should persist in their unjusti.fiable Designs; the Result of their Resolution on this Head, I shall acquaint You of very soon & as my Time is greatly en.hanc'd with them, I hope you will excuse my enlarging, but to assure You I remain with great Deference & Respect

Yr Lordships

much Oblig'd & most

Obed.t hble Serv.t

Robt Dinwiddie

To the Right Hon.ble Lords of Trade &c.a

[Fr 24]

Endorsed. Virginia / Letter from Robt Dinwiddie / Esqr Lieut Govr of Virginia to / the Board, dated Novemb.r 4th / 1753. re.lative to Indian / Affairs & transmitting (241) / W.126/

Recd Janry 28 } 1754. /
Read March 27 }

2 Papers 6. ✱

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To the Hon.ble Robert Dinwiddie Esq.r [illegible]
Governor & Commander in Chief of the Colony of
Virginia—

May it please your Honour —

In pursuance to your Instructions to proceed with a Present of Powder Lead Guns &c.a to the Six Nations & their Allies: An Account of that whole Affair I beg leave to lay before you, which will appear in the following Sheets — I am

y.r Hon.r

Most dutiful & Obed.t Serv.t

William Trent

1753
July

It was the 11.th of July before I reach'd the Logs Town being stopd on the Road by great Rains & high Waters.

12.th Passed the Day in conversing with the Half King, & the rest of the Indians & enquiring News, they told me I might expect to know the Certainty of what the French were about in four Days, for they expected Scarrucade with the rest of the Indians, who they had sent to the French Army, on Purpose to know certainly what they were doing, would be back in that Time, & then they would call all their People together, & hear what I had to say to them, & receive the Present I brought. —

13.th I convers'd with a Cummyrago Runner, who came

from the French camp here, to take his Relations away to the French he says, that the French Army consists of twelve hundred Soldiers, which are already arriv'd in the Lakes besides Canoe Men, & those who carry Provisions, & that there is a great many more coming; that they have
[p 18]
built a strong Fort, & laid out a Town, where they have finish'd an hundred Houses, on the side of Lake Erie, that eight Pieces of Cannon was already come, & that they had pitch'd upon another Place to build another Fort & Town & that there was another Body of French coming up Mississippi & that they had built two Towns down the River, he says the French say, they took Possession of all the Lands on the other side Allegany Hill, for the King of France, three Years ago, by sinking of Iron Plates at the Mouth of several of the Creeks, & putting up Tin Plates on the Trees. – At Night some Indians came to Town from Vinango. it lies sixty Miles from this Town up the River, they inform'd us, that the Delawars had chiefly left Vinango, one Part of them was gone to help the French overy the carrying Place, & most of the Others were gone over to Sasquehanna –

14th. —— I don't like the Behaviour of the Delawars; five Men yesterday set off for War against the Southward Indians, & this Day Shingess, King of the Delawars came to Town with a Party of Warriors going down the River; the Half King & myself sent for him, & told him

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that it was not Right for him to be out of the way when the Canaywages came, for it was with their Nation that their chief Business was. —

The Six Nations & Shawnesse call'd a Council, & sent after the Warriors that went away the Day before & stopid them, as well as those that came to Day. The Half King told me, the Day before, that he had heard, that the Cummywages were coming to Venango to make the Delawares Satisfaction for the People that was killed by them in the Winter, & as the chief Man of the Delawars that livd at Venango was intirely in the French Interest; we doubted some underhand Dealings; so the Half King & myself con-cluded to send the Cummywago Men that was come to Town with the following Invitation to them —

Brothers the Cummywages — 5

have heard that you are coming to Venango to make the Delawars Satisfaction for their People you killd this last Winter, to bury the Hatchet, & renew your Friendship, the Fire that the Delawars had kin-dled ~ There is removd down to the Forks, near the Mouth of Monongehela or Theonderoga, where their King & the chief of their head Men is living, that was the proper Place for you to have come, but as I am come to Logs Town, to hold a Council with your Brothers / here, this is the Place where you must

now come; & I now, in behalf of the Governor of Virginia, invite you here, & the Six Nations, & their allies join with me in taking you by the Hand, to bring you to this Place, & we assure you of passing back-wards & forwards in Safety, from our People; to make you strong, & take fear from your Hearts we present you with this String of Wampum.

Brothers — Take these two Pipes of Tobacco, & smoke one from your Brother. the English the other from the Six United Nations & their Allies; & while you are Smoking think upon what we have said to you.

16th. The Half King told me that one of his People was come to Town from the French Army, & that he inform'd him, that he heard the French General say, that he was coming down Ohio to take Possession of it; that he would call at the Forks, & ask the English what they were doing there, & bid them go off, & if they did not go, they would catch them by the Hair & beat them, & throw them over the Hill; he was now coming to build as low as the Mouth of Beaver Creek, so far the Sun shin'd, but from there downwards it was all Darkness; that one Part of his People was coming down Scioto & up Ohio till they met, & they shou'd then see what they wou'd do—

Some of the Delawars were present when the Half King related this; when he had done, he began to

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tell what a deceitful People the French were; he then spoke to the Delawars. Now Cousins you see what sort of People the French are, put no belief in them, their Words are as sweet as Honey, but they don't come from their Hearts, only from their Lips; the French say they have no Hatchets with them; but it is all one to us. if we are kill'd, whether we are knock'd on the Head with a Hatchet, or Poisoned by drinking a Dram. I tell you a Glass of Liquor is a Frenchman's Hatchet, for while you think you are drinking with your Friend, he's basely Poisoning you; the Way he has lately serv'd several of us, & intended to do so to me, but I know them & wou'd drink none with them.

14th. Two Frenchmen arriv'd at Shawopins from the French Army.

18th. ——— The Half King told me, the French inform'd him, how they, & the English were going to divide the Land between them, & that there was a great Silver Mine, & several Powder Mines, which they now were going to take Possession of, & they would have a hard Pull by the Hair with the English, but they would have them; & that the Line betwixt the English & French, was to run on Allegany Hill, that all the Waters that run into Ohio is theirs; I asked him; if we were going to divide them, why the French came with an Ar-

•ny; besides they clame as far as the Top of the Hill, which is close by our Settlements; they leave no Land to make a Division of, unless we divide our Settlements with them, which you may de• •pend upon we shall not do; besides there is no such Things as Powder Mines; he answered, he knew very well the French were Liers, & that there was no such Things as Powder Mines; but he want'd to hear what Answer I wou'd make to it. - -

21st. ____ The Cunnawago Men, that went with the Invitation from us to his People, return'd here about Eleven O'Clock at Night from Venango. he inform'd us, that their People had consulted with Custaloga, a Delawar Man there, & that they were almost Starv'd, that they had all gone back to the French Army, except Four, & they did not care to come without conciling with the rest; he also inform'd us, that Custaloga, the Delawar Chief, as soon as he recev'd the Council, went away to help the French bring their Baggage over the Carrying Place, he told us the French had begun another Fort & Town; about half a Day's Journey nigher to us, than the first; & that the French Interpriter had employ'd the Delawars, to fitt up Mr Frazers Houses at Ve• •nango for him, where he was going to live; he also says, the French intend to build a Fort at Venango,

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as soon as they have finish'd that at Venango, they intend down to the Forks to build one there, & one at the Mouth of Beaver Creek, then they are to go down the River till they meet their Army that is gone the other Way, & then attack the Shawnesse & Twightwees. —

25th —— A Party of Indians that were Hunting, as a Party of Ottawas, about Ten Miles from the Town, when the Delawars heard it, they said; what need they Care, had not the French sent them Wampum? & it was all white. —

27th —— The Frenchmans Wife, & some Indian Children that slept in the House inform'd us, that the Night before, four strange Indians came there about Midnight, & went away before Day, we watch'd all the next Night, expecting they might come again, but they went off, we suppose with the News they got the Night before; One of the six Nations, that had been sent to the French Army, came to Town, he says the rest of them will be down in five Nights, some of them being taken Sick delay'd them —

Augst 4th Eight Ottawas & Chipewas arriv'd here in two Canoes, going to War against the Southward Indians; they are Part of them that came over to the Six Nations by their own Account, tho' we

suspect they are sent here by the French to do Mis-
-chief to the White People; the Half King talk'd very
sharply to them, and charg'd them to take Care
they did no Mischief to the white People

Mr Montours Brother came to Town, he says
the French will be down as soon as the River
rises, he talks greatly of their Numbers; I coud per-
-ceive by his Discourse that he is a Frenchman in
his Heart; I enquir'd of him about the Welch Indians,
but he either coud not, or would not give any
satisfactory Account of them; he says that there
is a Nation of white People that live one West
from here, a little Way from the Sea Side, who
Plow their Land as the white People do; & that the
Governor of Canada had once sent an hundred
Frenchmen to make a Discovery of them, but that
they either kill'd them all, or else they perish'd in
the Wood. ——

5th —— Arriv'd here one more of the Six Nations
that went to the French Army, to see what they
were doing; & one of the Head Men of the Cunny-
-wago Nation; he told us that when the Wampum
came, that I sent in behalf of the English, & Six
Nations & their Allies, that they council'd upon it; &
they agreed that some should come down; but the
French would not suffer them to come, for fear they

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shou'd come off to the English; for some time past they have been contriving to come off to the English, & the French know it: I enquir'd of him what be-came of Mr Croghans People & mine that were taken by the Cummywagoes; he said, he believ'd the French had taken them Home ~ He told me that the French were to blame for our People be-ing taken, for it was by Order of the French Of-ficers, he says he is sure of it, when he went last to War, the Commander of De Troit Fort, bid him kill the People of Virginia, Carolina & Pensylvania; for he wanted to pick a Quarrel with them. ---

/Some White Men came here from the Lower Shaw-nese Town, they say Ottaways have kill'd one of the Shawnese, & that a Party of the Wyondotts came into the Lower Shawnese Town, & took out five of the Cherokees that came there to Council, the Shawnese try'd to get them deliver'd back, but they would not be prevail'd on; the Shawnese then thought to take them by Force, but as both Sides were preparing to fight; a Party of Wayondotts that lay a Distance from the Town, that the Shawnese knew nothing of, came up, & the Shawnese were obliged to desist, & let the Wayondots carry them off.

7th —— Scaruncate, with the rest of the Six Nations that went to the French Army return'd, the Enemy were discover'd near the Town, we pursu'd them upon

their Tracts three Miles to a stony Hill, & there lost the Tracts; the Enemy were seen again this Evening. Word was sent to the Delawars to go out after them, as we knew they would make off since they were discoverid.

At Night we went to the Half Kings: Scarouady told us that the French had finish'd one fort, & built an hundred Houses in the Town; & that they had begun another Fort & Town, on a little Lake about three or four hundred yards wide, & about the same Distance from the French Creek, the Fort stands between the Lake & the Creek, & that they were diging a Canal to let the Lake into the Creek, that by raising a Gate they might come down with their Canoes at any Time ~ They Convers'd with the Comander of the Fort; he told them, that the Comander of the Forces was a great Man; almost equal to the King, that they were coming to take Possession of all the Land on that Side Allegany Hill, & to drive the English over the Hill, he told them, that they had set Bounds for the English a long Time ago, & that they were Angry to hear that they were Settling on Monongehela, that he was order'd to take Care of his Children, & to leave Stores of Powder, & Lead, & Guns for their use, at each Fort they built ~ He told them their Army when together consist.

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:ed of ten thousand Men. Scarrucate told me, that there was but eight hundred Men yet arrivd, that they were daily employed, Sunday not excepted, in clearing the Road between the two Forts to make it fit for Carriages to go, & that one Party was constantly employ'd in carrying the Baggage over the Carrying Place, & another Party / went towards Niagara till they met the Party [p 33] that escorted the Provisions, that came in the Canoes, when the Party that came with the Canoes were met, they returnd & left the Canoes under the Care of the Party that met them, he says, that they have only eight Pieces of Canon, yet arrivd; but that they expected a great many more the rest was coming, he says that the Men are almost dead with hard Work, that an hundred brisk young Men would kill a Thousand of them, that they have a large Quantity of Goods with them; that the Fort on the big Lake is very strong of hued Timber about six Foot apart fillid in between with Dirt, with four Bastions, & a Ditch, it stands close upon the Edge of the Lake, upon a rising piece of Ground, the Bank of the Lake is very high & soft Mould ~ The other Fort is only a Pallisadoed Fort, & the Town to be Pallisadoed. —

8th —— Mr Bonney arrivd here at Night, with Directions in Writing from Mr Gist, to invite some particular Indians to the Treaty —

9th The Shawnesse arriv'd here from the Lower Town, & the Mouth of big Connaway; we met them a little way from the Town, welcom'd them, & wipd away their Tears, for their People that was kill'd by the French Indians —

10th —— The Indians gather'd & sent me Word they were ready to hear what I had to say to them —

Present

The Half King & Scarrineate } The two Chiefs of the Six Nations with a great many Warriors & others of the same Nation.

Singess King of the Delawars & The Beaver —— } With many others of the same Nation.

Nucheconner King of the Shawnesse & The young King —— } With many Others of the same Nation.

The Wayondott Chief

The young Twightwee King & The Turtle —— } With several others the Deputies of the several Tribes (one) of the Twightwees.

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Sachems & Warriors of the Six

United Nations Delawars, Shawnesse, Wayondotts, & Twightwees our Friends and Brethren — His Honour the Governor of Virginia has sent me here to speak to You in his Name, which I shall do in the same Manner as he would have done were he here Present. —

Friends & Brethren I am come here to brighten the Chain of Friendship so long sub-

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sisting betwixt us, & to assure You I will build a Trading House on that Piece of Ground which you appointed the Comissioners last Spring; which House shall serve as a Nursery for you, & at the same Time be a Place of Defence, where you may defend yourselves from your Enemies, & Shelter your Women & Children in Time of Danger; to confirm what I have said, & to shew the Goodwill I bear You, I present you with this String of Wampum.—

Brethren Capt. Trent from Ohio informd me of the March of a French Army to attack You. which News I have confirmd both from Onondago, New York & Pensylvania; he also informd me, that you calld a Council of Your wise Men at George Croghans House, where You concluded to send a Message to your Brethren the English; to acquaint them that you were not able to defend yourselves without their assistance Capt Trent deliverd your Message to me, desiring me to send you some Powder Lead Guns &c? Things suitable for your Warriors; You then also expresd your resentment of the ill Usage of the French, both towards Yourselves & us: To be so ill usd in your own Country; What is the heroick Spirit of your Ancestors lost? Will the Six Nations, who were formerly a Terror to the French, suffer themselves to become

their Slaves? I desire you not to let them build any strong House in your Country, for they make a bad Use of them; as soon as they get three or four built, they will then tell you; you must do as they would have you; & the Six Nations will then cease to be a People, it is much easier to keep them from building any, than to drive them away afterwards.

Brethren as soon as I received your Mes. =sage, I sent you a Quantity of Powder, Lead, Guns &c. [for as] such Things / as I thought most proper for your Defence at this Time, & as soon as I have erected a Trading House on Ohio, I will always keep in it a Quantity of Warlike Stores, that I may be always ready to supply you upon any Emergency. To assure you of the Good Will of this Government, to confirm what I have said, & that this Speech may have its full force upon your Minds, I pre. =sent you with this Belt of Wampum—

Friends & Brethren It is now just Eighty One years since the French perswaded you to let them build a Store for Merchandize on Cadaraqui Lake; it was only twelve Years after they had got it built, before Monsieur de La Barrie, the Govern. of Canada, came with seventeen hundred Men to knock You all of the Head, but his Men all got Sick, & so was obligd to go Home without doing anything against you; Three Years afterwards Mon.

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. sieur De Nonville, who succeeded M: De La Barrie in the Government, came to Cadaracui with five thou: . sand Soldiers & Indians. he surpriz'd & took two Towns of the Five Nations that liv'd about twenty four Miles from Cadaracui Fort, these People Settled there at the Invitation of the French. yet they were car: . ried to the Fort, & given by the French to their Indians, who burnt them: After this they march'd to the chief Town of the Senekas; the Senekas at: . tack'd them, & kill'd a hundred Frenchmen, & ten French Indians; the next Day they went to the Town to burn it, but the Senekas sav'd them the Trou: . ble; they found two Old Men of the Senekas there who they eat up & Boild, & the French Indians eat: the Frenchmen were so frightned at the Attack the Senekas made on them the Day before, that they went Home as fast as they cou'd; then as your People were going to Canada, at the Invitation of the French to make Peace; the French sent a Party of their People who kill'd & took all the Embassadors of the Six Nations that were going to make Peace; The chief Men were Onondagos, Oneydoes; this Piece of Treachery of the French renew'd the War, & the Six Nations kill'd a thousand French Men at one Time besides Prisoners, ruin'd all the French Country & they were oblig'd to desert Cadaracui Fort: The next Year

Count de Frontenac came over Governor, he brought back all the Prisoners of the Six Nations that the French had sent to Old France, & made Slaves of—

/Three Years after this they made War with the Six Nations, & they sent two of them that they had took at La Prairie to the Ottawas, who burnt them. the Winter following the French surpriz'd Eighty of the Six Nations hunting between Cataracui Lake, & Lake Erie, a good many of which they kill'd; I need not tell You how at Monreal, this Year, they burnt one of your Men that was taken Pri. =soner, & the other that was with him kill'd him. =self for Fear: I need not tell you, how that next January will be sixty years, since the French sur. =priz'd three Mohawks Castles, & kill'd & took two or three hundred Prisoners; & how they burnt one of your People at Cadaracui, & gave him to the Ottawas to Eat: I make no doubt You remember, or at least, have heard your old Men say; how the French took Possession of Cadaracui Fort again. that as soon as they had Fortified it, how the Governor of Canada came there with a large Army; how he destroy'd the Onondagoes Corn, & took one of the Old Men, & gave him to the French Indians to eat; & how one of the Jesuites perswaded thirty five of Cajugas to stay, all of whom the French made Prisoners: I could also put

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you in Mind when & where, they have at several times since kill'd your People — The Shawnesse know, & we all here, even the Children can remember; how they perswaded them to leave us, & how they us'd them: We all know, how last year they kill'd of us all, when they attack'd the Twightwees Town, & how they eat their King; this year your Cousins the Delawars have had a Taste, the Blood is yet smoking. I can smell it strong; I tell this to you Old Men of the Six Nations, to put you in Mind what sort of People they are, & to these others that are not so well acquainted with them, that they may know them I call you, Old Men of the Six Nations, to know whether it is not true what I have said, is it not true? And I expect each Nation will open their Hearts & Minds, & tell me what you intend to do; whether you intend to let the French finish their Forts & take your whole Country away from you, & make Slaves of you all; or whether you intend to drive them off. In Expectation that you will open your Hearts & tell me Truth, I present you with this String of Wampum —

Friends & Brethren. I recomend it to you to make a Peace with all the Southward Indians, the Cherokees, the Creeks & Chickasaws; the [p. 17] Cawtawas, you are already at Peace with. I will use

any Endeavours in doing it about if you desire it; I also desire you to make up the Difference betwixt the Wyandotts and Cherokees; & any Difference that may be betwixt any other of the People, that is in Alliance with you, & the Southward Indians, as Union will make you strong & formidable; so will a Division make you Weak & despicable; when the French find You are United, they durst not attack you; Its their Interest to keep you at War with one another for they say its all one which is killd, they loose an Ene-my you may now see it; The French durst never offer to build a Strong House in Your Country with-out your Consent, were it not that they think there is so wide a Breach betwixt you & the South-ward Indians, that you cannot bring them to your Assistance; but it is not too late, a Peace may yet be brought about if you desire it; I also recomend it to you to keep your People from geting Drunk, & to keep out Spies, to keep the Enemy from surprizing you; there is one Thing more I have to tell you; the Cummywa--goes kill both the Praying Indians, Cherokees, Catawbas, & the English, & when they have done, they say they are the Six Nations; this the French tells them to do on purpose, to make a War betwixt you, the Catawbas, & Cherokees, & make the English angry with you; I thought proper to tell you this, that you may en-

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endeavour to prevent it. To enforce what I have said I present you with this String of Wampum —

Friends & Brethren. The Governor of Virginia sent Mr Gist to invite you down to Winchester, but as he was prevented by Business; he sent the Bearer Mr Burney, to desire that the Half King, Scarrucate, Shingess King of the Delawars, & the Wyandot Chief, may attend the Twightwees down to Winchester; at which Place he, or one of his Council, will meet you, where he has provided a small Present for the Twightwees & desires you may be there by the twentieth of this Month; & I now take you both by the Hand with this String of Wampum, to lead you down to the Place appointed —

Gave the String —

After the Council was over, the Six Nations informd me, that [P v] they were going to send to gather all their People, that they might be in one body, & they askd my Opinion about the French what their Intentions were: I answerd that my Opinion was, that they would oblige the Indians to do every thing they bid them, & that they would become Slaves to the French, as our Negroes were to us, if they suffer them to build their Forts as they intended, for I was sure it was their Intentions to make Slaves of them, & make themselves Masters of the Land; then

I went up to the Half Kings. where the Chiefs of the Indians were gather'd. they told me they would go & warn the French off their Land, while some come down to hear what the Governor had to say to them: & that since the Delawars had been under. hand consulting with the French, that some of them should go with them. when they went to warn them off — Then the Half King got up & spoke; now let our Women hold their Tongues. they must not concern themselves about our Business, for we are now Warriors. —

Then Scarrucade informd us, that when he, with the rest of the Deputies sent of the Ohio Indians; arrivd at the French Town, which they had quite built on Lake Erie; they let the French Commander know, that they came there to know the Truth of his Heart. what he came about, & what he intended to do. for they heard that he was coming with an Army to destroy them; & that their Women & Children were affraid to go abroad for fear of them & their Men kept from Hunting, Watching their Women and Children —

The French Commander answerd upon four Strings of black & white Wampum.

Children It is true that I am coming with a great many Men; but it is not my Fault

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it is the King of France's Orders, & I must obey them; I am coming to take Possession of all this Land, & to take Care of my Children living here; but why do you tax me with such Discourse as you did a while ago? what do you think I have a Hatchet under my Arm? No, if I had I should not hide it, but would carry it out at Arms Length, you know my Children I conquer all, & have conquer'd all; so strong as I am conquering, so strong will I be in doing Good, & so strong as I am doing Good; so strong will I / be in Whiping [p 89] my Children if anything disturbs me—

The Deputies of the Six Nations speake—

We thank you Father that you are come upon no bad Design, we take you by the Arm, to draw you down to talk to our Brothers the English, & say what you have to say to them; leave your Servants at Home, & let them do what you have to do, & Twenty of our young Men shall be a Guard to you till you return back—

The French Comander answer'd upon four Strings of black & white Wampum—

Oh! my Children, hear what I have to say to you, I am very heavy, were there a great Army, they would not be able to take me along, no were they Devils, or Masters of Devils, they could not take me along—

The French Comander's Speech upon a large white

Belt 13 Rows deep, with four Towns & Forts work'd in it with black Wampum—

Children you tell me your Women & Children are affraid of us; & that your Warriors cannot be at Peace in their Minds on our account; I now tell you what I am coming about, & be at Peace in your Minds, this I send to all the Heads of the Indian Nations; I am coming along, & if Your Brethren the Eng. lish are ever so thick in the Way, they shall not stop me, I will go through the Middle of them, & I will build my Forts & Towns just below them.

The Deputies of the Six Nations, interrupting him, spoke.

Fathers. We want to know what Place You pitch upon to build Your Forts & Towns.

He answer'd

I don't know that Country, I shall stand & look about me, & whatever Place I like there will I build my Forts & Towns; according to the King of France's Orders; & here I give you this Belt, which is my Words to take along along with You

Gave the Belt

12th —— The Half King in behalf of the Six Nations & their Allies spoke upon two Strings Wampum—

[N00] /Brothers We have desir'd the Bearer, Thomas Burney your Messenger; to be a Messenger to go

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before us, to acquaint you, that we have a little Business, which we are now sitting in Council on, to finish; which we shall dispatch as quick as possible; & then we shall set off to meet You, & we desire that the Governor himself would meet us at the Place appointed. All Nations are here gathered together, & we have concluded, that the Half King shall go & warn the French off our Land; & whatever Speeches may be made by the Governor, may be sent in Writing, as well as what is deliver'd by Word of Mouth to our People that go down; to enforce this Speech I send these Strings of Wampum.

14th: ——— Mr. Gist arrived here in the Evening —

15th: ——— I acquainted the Indians that Mr. Gist was the Person that the Governor had sent to invite them down; & he shew'd them the Governor's Instructions; we thought it would be proper for him to go down & acquaint the Governor with the News here, & as I was oblig'd to stay for an Answer, that I should come down with them.

16th: ——— At Night, a Mohawk Indian, call'd the Eldest, arrived here from Venango; he informd me, that a Party of French Soldiers, consisting of seventy five Men, Commanded by a Captain, & one Nevinville a french Officer, that livd all last Winter in the Logs Town; came there & took one John Trotter a Pen-

: sylvania Trader & his Man Prisoner. with all his Goods & Horses & had them tied; & that they pursuid Mr. Traizer & another Traders Man. Eight Miles down the River. but could not overtake them; he says they have taken Possession of Ve. : nango, & that they are fiting up Mr. Traizers Houses, which he was obligd to leave for fear of them; he also says that eight Days ago he was at the Town on Lake Erie, & that forty large Canoes arrivd there with Provi. : sions; that they had brought five Peices of Cannon over the Carrying Place to the Fort they have built betwen the Little Lake & the French Creek; he also says, that they have sent for all the Cannywagoes, & that a great Body of Indians are gatherd at Niagara, who are to go imediately on an Expedition towards the Southward, which Suppose is against our Indians.

[p. 10]
17th: ——— The next Morning the Frenchman that lives in the Logs-town came to me, & informd me, that he had recevd a Letter from Monst Neverville. dated at Venango, by the Fiddler. wherein he informd him, that he came there with a Detachment of Soldiers from the Little Lake Town, & that they had taken an English Trader & his Man, with all their Goods & Horses; I askd him how they durst take the Subjects of Great Brit. : tain in Time of Peace; he answerd me. it was because they traded on the Land belonging to the King of France. I am obligd to wait here till the Shawnesse

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finish their Dance which is likely to hold these five or six Days; they seem to think of Nothing else but their dancing. Mr Frazier sent me a Deserter from the French Army; which his Man had found on the Road; he says their Army consists of 800 Soldiers, & 1600 Militia. I believe he is a great Liar—

20th: Mr Montour came to Town

22d ——— The came some Wyondotts from Tussaraways; they see some French Indians on the Road hunting for white Men—

23d ——— The Delawars & Shawnesse, by two Strings of Wampum, told the Six Nations; that they look'd upon them as their Rulers, & that they were ready to strike the French whenever they bid them

Then the Delawars gave the Six Nations a String of Wampum, a great part of which was Black—

Uncles Be Strong very Strong, & let us do what we have agreed on—

24th: ——— The Half King & Scarrucate told me, that they had come to a Resolution to warn the French off their Land, & if they did not go they would fall upon them; they told me, they shou'd give me no other Answer then, as the Governor had sent for them down they would answer everything there — They then told me next Day they would sett off one Party to warn the French off their Lands, the other

to meet the Governor; & desir'd that I would go before & acquaint the Governor that they were coming. W. Montour promises to come down with them.

Sept. 4th ——— I arriv'd at Winchester—

14th ——— In the Evening they acknowledg'd the re-
ceiving the Present of Powder, Lead, Guns & Blankets which I carried out & return'd the Government Thanks for them.

When I deliver'd the Present, I laid by them-
selves about one fourth of the Powder & Lead, & one fifth of the other Things, which I gave the Twightwees: The Remainder I laid in another Heap, which the Six Nations divided among themselves, Shawnesse, Delawars, & Wyondotts; each Nation taking away their own Share.

William Trent

A true Copy

Wm. Withers

[Endorsed] Virginia / W. William Trents Acco.t / of his Proceedings with the six / Nations of Indians & their / Allies and the Distribution of / a Present amongst them / recd with Gov.r Dinwiddies / Letter 7.th Nov.r 1753. /

W. 127. / Receiv'd Jan.y 28 } 1754
Read March 27 }

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A Key to some of the following Words [D...]

Assaraqua signifies a Cutlass or Sword: The Name was given to Lord Howard Governor of Virginia. upon his presenting to the Indian Chiefs one of those Weapons, & ever since it is the Name they use in treating with the Governor of Virginia, or any Other that treat with them from that Colony.

Onas is Indian for Pen; The Name of the Pro. prietor of Pensylvania —

Onondio. & Name given the Gov.r of Canada, denotes Excell.t chief Comander —

Yocarry-hogan. The Proprietor of Maryland, denoting Precedency, Excellency, living in the Mid. dle or Hon.ble Place between Assaraqua, & their Brother Onas —

Wampum is of two sorts, White & Purple: the White is work'd out of the Inside of the Conque Shell into the Form of a Bead per. forated to string on Leather: The purple is work'd out of the Inside of the Mussel Shell. They are wove as broad as a Mans Hand, & about two Feet long which they call Belts, & give & receive at their Treaties as the Seals of Friendship; for lesser Matters

a single String is given every Bead is of known Value, or they are current Money a-
. mong the Indians. —

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To the Honble Robert Dinwiddie Esq:
Governor & Commander in Chief of the Colony & Dominion
of Virginia —

Pursuant to Your Honrs Commission under the Great Seal, & in Consequence of Your Instructions; Be pleas'd to accept the following Report as a faithful Narrative of my Proceedings with certain Chiefs of the Six United Nations of Indians & their Allies; & my ready & punctual Obedience to Your Honrs Commands.

I am with all dutiful Regards.

Sr

Yr Honours very faithful
& Obedient humble Servt
William Fairfax

Williamsburg 22d Octr
— 1753 —

[Fol.] At the Town of Winchester in the County of Fredericka—
September the 10th 1753—

About 3 o Clock P. M. Mr Andrew Montour, the Interpreter, came to Town & brought Intelligence that the Indians who were expected here, ever since the 20th of August last: were on their March about four Miles off, & intended hither this Evening. Whereupon Colonel George William Fairfax, comanding Officer then present, immediately assembled fifty of the Militia arriv'd with Firelocks, whom, after being Exercis'd, were drawn up in a Line at the North end of the Town, & there ground-ed their Firelocks. Whilst this was performing, Lord Fairfax, & several Gentlemen join'd the Commissioner, & agreed to walk up the Road to meet the Indians. About 6 o'Clock they saw them coming on Foot, their Firelocks Shoulder'd; but on seeing us saluted with a Sheet Fire. And on coming near us, the Commissioner first took the several Chiefs by the Hand, then Lord Fairfax, & the Gentlemen present, made the same Com-pliment; & together preceded the Indians till they came abreast of our Line of Musquetry, which gave a brisk Volley, still marching on till we came to the Shell of a Building formerly designid for a Church, & which was rough Floor'd on that Occasion; And introduc-ing the Indians therein, they soon stow'd away

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their little Baggage, & settled themselves, being in Number Ninety eight, Men Women & Children. On which Mr. Montour was directed to acquaint the several Indians that their Brother Assaraquoa was go-
-ing to speak to them, & then spoke as follows. —

Brethren of the Six United Nations, the Delawars. Shawnesse, Wayondotts & Twightwees.

We heard last Year of the barbarous Treatment You receiv'd from (Those You call Your Fathers) the French. when they & their Children attack't one of the Twigh-
-twee Towns; & there struck their Hatchets into the Heads of the Six Nations, Shawnesse & Twightwees, & carried six of Your Brethren the English Traders away with them, & lately have struck our Brethren the Delawars.

P. 4

I now assure You Brethren the Wounds You receiv'd at that Time equally affected the English, We are sensible You have been shedding Tears ever since for the Loss of Your Friends — do I now in the Name of Your Brother Assaraquoa, present You this String of Wampum, to wipe the Tears from Your Eyes.

Gave a String of Wampum.

Brethren —

You are now come off a long Journey, & as I make no doubt but may have undergone some Diffi-
-culties & Inconveniencies on the Road; I present You with this String of Wampum to chear Your Hearts, to open Your

Eyes & Ears, that You may see the Sun clear & hear what Your Brother Assaraquoa has to say to You—

Gave a String of Wampum—

Which Speeches being interpreted & explain'd by W. Montour, Monacatoocha a Chief of the Six Nations & Speaker, return'd the following Answer. That they thank'd their Brother Assaraquoa, & hop'd as they had come so far, that he would open his Heart, & express his Mind freely; & not to keep any Thing conceal'd therein; that they may see clearly, & do the same. And that they would acquaint him to-morrow Morning when they would hear him.

Then ordering some Wine & Rum to be brought the several Gentlemen present, in a Glass of Wine, drank a good Health, to the Six Nations & their Allies. The Indians, in presenting each of them a Glass of Rum, drank Prosperity to their Father, the King of Great Britain, & the English Nation; & upon delivering to each a Pipe & a Twist of Tobacco, together with the appearance of a good Supper of Beef preparing for them; the Indians seem'd pleas'd with their Welcome, & we wish'd each Other a good Night—

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In the Court House at Winchester [1]

Tuesday the 11th of Sept. 1753.

Present

The Honble William Fairfax Comissioner

The Rt Honble Thos Lord Fairfax

Colo George Wm Fairfax
Colo James Wood
Majr John Carlyle
} & {
Capt. Thos Bryan Martin
Capt. William Gilpin
Mr. George Croghan

Capt. William Trent, & several other Gentlemen

Sachems or Chiefs of the Six Nations

Monacatoocha
Kiseta
Juanetto

Of the Delawars

King Singess
Beaver
Pisquetem
Delaware George

Sachems of the Shawnese

Newchyconer a King
Tomenebuck

Of the Wayondotts

Sedajuhanne, or big Kettle

Of the Twightwees

The King or Racoon
Turtle or chief Warrior

And several of their Warriors.

Mr Andrew Montour Interpreter

Silence being commanded, the Interpret. er let the Indians know their Brother Assara. = goa was ready to speak to them, & then spake as follows.

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Brethren of the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawnesse, Wayondotts, & Twightwees.

Your chief Council at Onondago sent a Mes-
-sage to Your Brother the Governor of Virginia to ac-
-quaint him. they had not forgot the advice he gave
them, in regard to securing their Lands on Ohio
River; for that he believ'd the French had a Design
of taking those Lands from them; And they likewise
told Your Brother Assaraquoa in their said Message;
that they had also Advice from the French to the
same Effect, to bid them beware of the English, who
intended to take the Ohio Lands from the Indians;
& the Onondagoes Council further added; that They
were now determin'd to secure their Lands on the
Ohio. that Their Warriors were now to take those
Lands under their immediate Care, & were resolv'd,
that if the French did not leave the Ohio; They
had Orders to make War on them; & at the same
Time requested their Brethren the English to leave
those Lands, for fear they shou'd be hurt by the
French Indians, on a War breaking out between the
Six Nations & the French.

In Memory thereof I present You with
this Belt of Wampum.

Brethren

At the Treaty held last Year by this Govern.

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:ment with You at Loggs Town; You requested us to
build a strong House at the Mouth of Mohongehela,
where a Quantity of Powder, Lead &c.ª might be lodged
to supply You upon any Emergency. I now assure You
that Comissioners are appointed to build such a House,
which shall be a Nursery for You, and Place of Defence,
where Your Women & Children may shelter themselves in
Times of Danger; And I will immediately order a Quan:
:tity of Powder, Lead, & Flints to be sent out to the
Place appointed for the Strong House to be built on,
that they may be ready to supply Your Warriors
when wanted. — I very well remember that at the
last Treaty, I orderd the Comissioners to acquaint you,
that I put my Hands upon Your Heads, and would
protect you against your Enemies; I now repeat
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|that, & will order every Thing suitable for Your
Warriors. I have already sent to the Cherokees, &
Catawbas; acquainting them of the French Designs
to attack You, who likewise advis'd the Chicasaws,
thereof; And altogether answerd me, they would be
ready & march to assist the Ohio Indians whenever
I call upon them; which I shall do whenever You
require it; — And I also assure you, that if, dur:
:ing a War betwixt You & the French, Your Women
and Children should be obligd to quit their Country,
they shall find a safe retreat in my Government,

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where they shall be provided with all Necessaries:
— To confirm what I have said, & that this
Speech may have its full force upon Yr Minds, I
present You with this Belt of Wampum.—

Gave a Belt of Wampum

In the Court House at Winchester.

Wednesday 12th Sept: 1753.

Present

The Honble William Fairfax Comiss:
The Rt Honble Thomas Lord Fairfax.
&
Gentlemen as Yesterday

Monacatoocha, addressing himself to the Comis-
-sioners, repeated over the first Speech delivered
Yesterday, & gave Thanks for the same. — He then
repeated over the Second Speech, and likewise gave
Thanks for the Governor's Care of all their People; &
further said, they had prepard a Speech in An-
-swer, which being accordingly deliver'd, & interpreted
by Mr Montour was as follows. —

Brother Assaraquoa

"We take this Opportunity [pau] You, that our
[na] Country is much disturb'd at this Time, by the Invasion
of the French Army; no such Thing ever happned between
You & Us. "We remember from the First Time the English
came amongst Us: We took hold of their Ship & tied
it to the Grass but fearing the Grass might break, re-

mend the Ship, & cast her with our Men Chain
to a Ring adjoining: (mourning the Ornorago Sum-
But then Bantam selling them, then Men Chain
mighe take Slave; They then cast her with a Chain
Chain, which has an Anchor hanging near the
Locked Door: We made a Noise although we

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Hatchets against them: And now Brethren you hear what We say about Our Lands, & hope you will pity us, & not incumber us, whilst under Difficulties, in Settling Our Lands, We have been told that You have corresponded with the French, & perhaps know what they designe against us, as to what You told us Yesterday about the Southern Indians, We give You Our Hearty Thanks, & assure you, the War between us was their Fault not Ours, And We hope you will endeavour to make a more firm Peace between us, it being Our willing Mind to have it so

Gave a Belt of Wampum.

Brother Assaraquoa

We Your Brethren here present of the Six Nations, Delawars, Shawnese, Wayondotts, [psu] Twightwees / desire You may not take any thing amiss of what has been now said, to Day, that the Chain of Friendship so long subsisting between us, be preserv'd bright & free from Rust; And We desire you may not give Credit to any ill Reports You may hear to prejudice us in Your good Opinion, & We will do the same on Our Parts.

Gave a Belt of Wampum.

[In]

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In the Court House at Winchester.

Thursday Sept^r 13^th 1753.

Present

The Hon^ble William Fairfax Esquire

Col^o Geo. William Fairfax

Col^o James Wood

M^r George Croghan

Capt^t Wm Trent

M^r Christo Gist & Others.

The Chiefs of the Indians present, & M^r Montour, who was directed to acquaint the Twightwees, that their Brother Ossaraquoa was going to speak to them, & spake as follows—

Brethren of the Twightwees

We gave You an Invitation last Spring to come & visit us, in Company with Your Brethren the Six Nations, Delawars, Shawnesse, & Wayondotts in this Town of Winchester, where We have kindled our Council Fire, & You have come in Company with Your said Brethren, assuring You we are glad to see You. We remember what the French did last Year in barbarously murdering Your People, & I now take this Opportunity of healing Your Wounds, & wiping the Blood off Your Bodies that Your Hearts & troubled Minds may be at Ease—

(See)

Brethren— It is a long Time since We & Your

Brethren the Six Nations became One People, & as You have been entered into the lasting Chain of Friendship subsisting between Us, We desire You may be Strong & entirely directed by Your Brethren the Six Nations, & not by any Others, that holding fast by Our Chain of Friendship, You may be one People with Us. To enforce this on Your Minds, I present You with this Belt of Wampum.

Gave a Belt of Wampum.

Then spake to the Wayondotts, as follows —

Brethren of the Wayondotts

You heard what I have said to Your Brethren the Twightwees. The French have told You not to regard what the Six Nations shou'd say to You, for that We were cheating You; And that You should hear, & mind, only Themselves, who were Your Fathers — But Brethren, remember You have long since joined in the Chain of Friendship with Us, that You are an independant People, & have a Right to choose Your Brethren: The French want to keep You in their own Power, that You may live in Bondage under them, as a People in the Dark. Brethren I speak to You from my Heart & not from my Lips, & advise You to be ruled by Your good Brethren the Six Nations, & not to be deceiv'd by the French, as a great many of Your People have

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been, & that You may endeavour to draw Your People back to Ohio where You may all live happily as Brethren ought to do.

Gave a Belt of Wampum.

Then spake to the Shawnese as follows

Brethren of the Shawnesse

You accompanying Our & Your Brethren at this Time, gives us an additional Pleasure. Unity among Brethren is the most prudent Measure to defend their Property; And whilst You & we continue in Brotherly Love, You need not be much affraid of Our Enemies. In Token of Our Desire to correspond /with You as become Brethren, I present You with this Belt of Wampum. (p. 56)

Gave a Belt of Wampum.

Then the Chief of the Wayondotts taking the Belt of Wampum in his Hand, spake as follows, being interpreted by Mr. Montour.

Brother Assaraquoa

We heard what You said to us, & it is true the French have led us in the Dark, as if We were Drunk; But now Brother We will be advis'd by You, & do what You & the six Nations will direct us; for We will hold fast by the Chain of Friendship subsisting between You the six Nations, & Us, as long as the Sun gives Light ⟶

Then the Turtle, Speaker of the Twightwees, hold-
-ing the Belt of Wampum in his Hand, spake as
follows, being Interpreted

Brother Assaraquoa

We, the Twightwees, give You Our Thanks for
Your Friendship to us. You have wash'd the Blood
off our Bodies, & made our Hearts glad; & We now
speak to You from Our Hearts, & assure You, We will
hold fast by the Chain of Friendship. & will let all
Our Different Tribes know the Benefits they will re-
-ceive from contracting a Friendship with the English.
We will put Your Advice to our Hearts, so that You,
the Six Nations, & We may be one People.

Then Tomenebucke, Speaker of the Shawnesse,
spake as follows being Interpreted, having the Belt in
his Hand.

Brother Assaraquoa

When we receiv'd Your Message last Spring,
We were glad of an Opportunity of coming to see You
Our Brethren, & as We came on Our Journey We ex-
-pected to hear Nothing but what was good. We have
heard what You have said, & find it all as we ex-
-pected. We give You Our hearty Thanks & assure You,
We will hold fast by the great Chain of Friendship,
for We have given our Selves up to our Brethren the
Six Nations to be directed by them—

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/In the Evening Mr Montour being desir'd by the [p 57]
Indians to acquaint their Brother Assaraquoa, They
wanted to speak to Him at his Lodging, which be-
-ing granted, accordingly met

At Mr William Cock's about 7 o' Clock P. M:

When Monacatoocha, in behalf of the said se-
-veral Nations of Indians spake as follows, being Interpreted.

Brother Assaraquoa

We now inform You, that about four Years
ago, our Brother Onas took our Brethren the Twightwees
by the Hand; & as We are now come to pay You a
Visit We likewise think proper to conduct our Breth-
-ren the Twightwees down to Pensylvania, that they
may be now firmly joind in the Chain of Friend-
-ship; And We present You with String of Wampum,
& request You to let our Brother Onas know, that
We expect He will meet us at Carlisle, on the 22d
of this Inst. to brighten the Chain of Friendship be-
-tween Him & the Twightwees; And pray make
our Compliments to Him, & let Him know We are
distrub'd in our Country, by the French, & must
make all Dispatch Home, or We would have gone to
Philadelphia, & not given Him the Trouble to meet
Us at Carlisle

To which it was answer'd, that Assara-
-quoa, would write such a Letter to their Brother

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Onas as desird, & enclose therein the String of Wampum, deliverd & sent it by Mr George Croghan, who expected to see the said Governor of Pensylvania, in three or four Days at Lancaster —

Friday the 11th of September —

The Indians having drunk too freely last Night of spiritous Liquors, whereby they were much intoxicated, & unfit for Business in the Day, agreed and met

At Mr William Cocks about 9 o'Clock P: M

When Mr Montour was directed to acquaint the Indian Chiefs that Brother Assaraquoa was going to speak, & spake as follows.

[211] / Brethren of the Six Nations, their Cousins the Delawars, their Allies, the Shawanesse, Twightwees, & Wayondotts.

As from Your several Speeches & hearty Declarations I have good Reason to think & believe You sincere Friends of the English, being convinc'd of the double Meaning or disguis'd Actions of the French; I cannot shew my Zeal for Your Welfare better, than by promoting a lasting Peace between You & the Southern Nations of Indians, with whom You have long maintain'd a bloody & destructive War: In order to bring about so desirable an Harmony they have agreed on my

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Perusal to send a certain Number of their Chiefs, to meet a like Number of Yours at this Town, & Time agreed on next Year if agreeable to You; when I shall with a great Pleasure meet You all, in the glad Hope of a General Council, to resolve on, & con-clude such essential Points, to unite the said several Nations with the English, in the strongest & bright-est Chain of Friendship. Now Brethren You may be convinced, that I have the greatest Concern for Your Welfare; and I request You will give me an immediate Answer to this Speech; & if it will suit Your Conveniency, should be glad You would appoint the full Moon in May next —

Gave a large Belt of Wampum.

Brethren

Last Spring when Your Brother Assaraguoa gave You an Invitation to come & visit him; You sent him Word You could not come at that Time, for that you expected an Army of French was coming to invade Your Country; On which, Your Brother Assaraguoa sent You a Quantity of Powder Lead, & Guns, by the French, to enable You to defend Yourselves against Your Enemy. Then Your Brother hearing that His Brethren the Twightwees were come from their own Country to Logstown, in order to come down hither: the long Desire he had to see & take them by the

Hand. He sent a Man to Logstown to invite them down, who came back & told Your Brother they were coming, but that there would not be above Twenty Men. so that we were not apprizd of seeing so many of our Brethren at this Time. or should have provid-ed better for Your Reception. But Brethren I hope You will accept the small Present now before You, as a Token of our sincere Love & Friendship. towards You. You may depend on Your Brother Assaraquoas meeting You here, on the full Moon in May next, when you will receive a large Present of Goods from Your Father the King of Great Britain. Now Brethren You are going to visit Our Brother Onas. I with this Belt of Wampum wish You a good Journey & a safe arrival into Your own Coun-try where You may find Your Families in per-fect Health & Safety

Immediately Monacatoocha after repeating said Speeches, answerd as interpreted

Brother Assaraquoa We return You Thanks for the Powder Lead, & Arms We receivd from Capt Trent: We likewise thank You for all good Speeches You have made us, which We shall be ready to answer to-Morrow Morning. Then drinking a Glass of Wine Each bid the Other a good Night.

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In the Court House at Winchester.

Saturday the 15th of September 1753

Present

The Honble William Fairfax Comms:

Colo George Wm Fairfax

Colo James Wood

Mr William Cocks, & Others

The Chiefs of the Indians, and Mr Montour also present.

The Turtle, Speaker of the Twightwees, with a String of Wampum, painted Green, in his Hand, spoke being interpreted as follows.

Brother Assaraquoa

I speak to You now, in the Presence of all the Chiefs of Our Brethren the Six Nations, Delawars, Shawnese, & Wyandotts; The Road that We have travelled to see You is to the Sun setting: Now Brother, with this String of (P. 60) Wampum, I assure You, I will always be willing to travel it whenever You desire me to meet You & the rest of Our Brethren together: And I will make Our Road from the Sun setting to the Sun rising as green as this String of Wam. -pum, that We may travel on a pleasant Road to visit Our Brethren the English, whenever they please to call us together.

Gave the String

Then after a short Space, He spake again with a Pipe in his Hand.

Brother Assaraquoa

In Presence of Our Brethren now here, I let You

know, that this Pipe is Our Council Pipe, which Our Kings have smoked out of in Council with all Our Brethren that are in League & strict Friendship with Us. Brother, We have but one Council Pipe, which We present You, & desire You will hold fast by it: And whenever You smoke out of it, You may remember the Friendship You are in with Us, & say, This is Our Brethren the Twightwees Council Pipe, which they gave Us at Winchester in Council with the Six Nations, Dela-wars, Shawnesse, & Wayondotts, in Sept.r 1753

Presented the said Pipe ——

Then laying two Beaver Blankets on the Clerk's Table, he again spoke,

Brother Assaraquoa

My Brethren here present, & all Our Brethren to the Sun setting have but one Heart, Now Brother, You see it is Green & good towards You our Brethren. There is no Deceit in Our Hearts, & We present You those Beaver Blankets, that You may always see Our Hearts, & rest assur'd that We are Your sincere Brethren, We hope You will let Our Brethren the Southern Indians know what is done.

Then Monacatoocha, in behalf of all the Indians, spake as follows, being interpreted, with a Belt of black Wampum in his Hand.

Brother Assaraquoa

We desir'd You, two Days ago, not to let

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suffer Your People to settle on Our Lands at this troublesome Time, & likewise told You We would drive the French away quite out of / Our Country. And [p 61] Brother, when We do that, We will consider what to say to you about the Lands; And as to the strong House that is to be built. We have consider'd & make Choice of Mr. Montour, Mr Trent & Mr. Gist, to transact Business between You & us; And if any of those Persons whom We have chose should misbehave, or do amiss; We will return them Home to You Honour again on their Misbehaviour _ And Brother You have promis'd us, the Six Nations, that You would supply Our Warriors with Powder, Lead, & such other Necessaries as wou'd enable us to defend Ourselves against Our Enemies. Now We desire You may immediately send such Supplies out to us, by those Persons We have chose; And We will shew them a Place where the Strong House shall be built, to store those Things for Our use _ And We also desire You may give Orders to Your Traders, that None of them shall scatter through the Woods but be directed by us; And We will appoint such & such Traders, to such & such Towns, as shall be able to furnish the several Towns with Goods; And such of the Traders, as will not be directed by us, We will send them Home with their Goods;

for if they be not directed by us. they may fall into the Enemys Hands: And We further desire You may give us from under Your Hand this Agreement, that We may have it to shew to Your People if there should be Occasion.

To enforce this Speech, & that it may prevent any Misunderstanding between us. Brother, We present You with this Belt of Wampum.

Gave the Belt of Wampum

Then with two strings of white & two strings of black Wampum in his Hand, said

Brother Assaraquoa

We have heard all that You have said to us, & We believe that You have spoke to us from Your Heart. Now Brother, We desire You may be strong, & order Your Traders to come out & Trade with us, that Our Wives & Children may be well supplyd with Goods; & order them that are to trade with us, from Your Government, to deal with us on reasonable Terms & not to impose on us, for We are but poor People, & hope You will tell Your Traders to sell their Goods cheap.

Gave four Strings of Wampum.

[illegible]

/The same Speaker, with two Strings of black Wampum in his Hand, further said

Brother Assaraquoa.

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As it has been a comon Practice for the English Traders to carry large Quantities of spiritous Liquors to the Woods, by which Means We have been kept some Years past inflam'd with it, so as to make us unfit is do any Business: We now desire You will charge all traveling People from Your Government, not to carry any out; for We will have no spiritous Liquors brought amongst Us: If any of Our People want Liquors let them come for it, & if they have Skins to give for it, they may purchase it themselves; for such small Quan-tities as they can take out & carry, will not do so much Hurt. —

Gave the two Strings of black Wampum

Then the Beaver, Speaker of the Delawars, with a Belt of Wampum in his Hand, spake, being interpreted, as follows,

Brother Assaraquoa

Attend to what I am going to say to You. The great God above Us, has call'd Us to-gether at this Time, & We have heard what You have said to Us; We are glad to hear what You told Us, that the Chiefs of the Southern Indians will meet You & Us here next Spring; And We hope You will be a Means of uniting Us all in strict Friendship together: But, Brother, there is

one Thing yet to be considerd. ~ You see that the five Nations, Shawnesse, & us, with the rest of Our Brethren to the Sun setting, have but one Heart, & We have it in Our Breast, And Our Heart is trou-bled for what We have heard: We heard that some young Men of Our Brethren the Shawnesse, that went to War against their Enemies the Southern Indians, have been taken Prisoners by Our Brethren the English, in South Carolina; And Brother We hope You will send to the Governor of South Carolina, that those Men may be releasid & sent Home to their own Country. Brother. that this Speech may have its desird Effect I present You with this Belt of Wampum —

Gave a Belt of Wampum

At Mr Wm Cock's

Sunday the 16th September 1753

Newcomer & Tomenebuck. Chiefs of the Shawnesse, by Mr Montour, desiring to speak in Private; & being admitted, Mr Gist present ~ They produced a Copy of an Agreement of Friendship sign'd & seald, with Governor Thomas Esqr of Pensylva-nia, whereby is manifested their Professions of Love & desird Unity with all the English; And as a Confirmation of their Resolution to maintain the same; They gave a Belt of Wampum, desiring We

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might take hold of one End thereof, as they would the Other to keep & preserve it as a Chain never to be broke, sullied, or suffer'd to be cut by any of Our Posterity—

They also return'd the English Colours which the Commissioners at Logstown gave to Big Hominé, who not understanding for what Purpose it was given, not being openly & publickly done, gave it to the said Newcheonner, who brought it in this private Manner as receiv'd.

Gave a Belt of Wampum

Who was answer'd. That I was glad to see their solemn League of Friendship, with the Governor of Pensylvania set forth in a Writing on Parchment, Sign'd & Seal'd by the Chiefs of the Shawanese, & the Government of Pensylvania; and kindly accept their Belt of Wampum, as a further Mark of their Intention to keep the said Chain of Friendship inviolable, Strong, bright & lasting, which We, the English, will likewise keep & maintain, so long as the Sun Moon & Stars shall give their Light.

Eodem Die. A.M.

Monacatoocha, by Mr Montour, came & desir'd, Mr Gist also present, that an Express might be sent to the Governor of South Carolina, to enquire if any Shawnese were detain'd Prisoners in Charles Town, if

[plu]
so, that no Application may be / made for their re-
=leasement; till said Monacatoocha shall have Notice,
intending to take his own Method; for that the
Chiefs of the Shawnesse had no Power, without consult-
=ing & having Leave from the Six Nations, to transact
any publick Business.

About two Hours after, Monacatoocha, with King
Singes, & his Brother, call'd Delaware George, came, & by
Mr. Montour declar'd, that as every Thing was done &
finish'd on the present Occasion to mutual Satisfaction;
shou'd be glad to have some Rum distributed among
the several Indians to drink their Father, the King
of Great Britains Health, & to express their Thankful-
=ness for his many gracious Favours, intending to de-
=part To-morrow.

And being ask'd what Quantity wou'd
be sufficient answer'd four Gallons! upon which Or-
=der'd that five Gallons of Rum be deliver'd to Mr.
Montour for their use.

At the Court House at Winchester

Sunday the 16th of Sept. 1753

Several of the Indians attended during
Prayers & a Sermon, officiated by the Revd Mr. Gordon,
& behaved decently, which being ended; They brought
two Adults, & four Children who were Baptiz'd Mr. Lewis
Castlemain, & William Davison, an Indian Trader, stand-

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ing Godfathers.

In the afternoon Monacatoocha & his Wife brought their only Son, about eleven Years of Age to be Christned. The Commissioner & Mr Christo Gist stood as God-fathers, & named the Boy Dinwiddie, with which the Parents seem'd well pleas'd. Then the Chief, comonly call'd Delaware George, & his Wife, presented their Infant Daughter, & being Baptiz'd, Col: Geo. Fairfax nam'd her Sarah; Lastly Mr Montour introduc'd his Kinsman of about Eighteen Years, & on Baptizing him was nam'd John; And on drinking a Glass of Wine, & wishing much Happiness to the Parents, & the new Christians, Each departed with Joy in their Countenances.

[p. 65]

Agreeable to the Indians Address on Thursday the 13th Inst. a Letter was wrote to the Governor of Pensylvania, according to the following Copy

Winchester, 15th September 1753

Sir

Pursuant to a Commission under Our Great Seal from Governor Dinwiddie, I came hither to meet certain Chiefs of the Six Nations, & their Allied Indians, & to make them a Present of some Arms, Ammunition, & Clothing. Upon drawing to a Conclusion I receiv'd a Speech from them: desiring I would write to Your Honour & with their best Compliments let You know, that proposing to return

homewards through Pensylvania: They should be most glad to meet Your Honour at Carlisle, on, or about, the 22d: Inst. in Hopes of shaking Your Hand, & introducing their Brethren the Twightwees. The present unsettled Affairs of their Country, on the French entering on their Lands, would not allow them Time to wait on Your Honour at Philadelphia.

I was further desird to send You the en: closd String of Wampum, as a Token of their great Desire to see You at Carlisle — For Particulars I beg leave to refer to Mr. George Croghan, who has kindly assisted me.

I am Sir, with a respectful Esteem,

Yr. Honours

most Obedt. humble Servt.

W: Fairfax

To the Hon.ble James Hamilton Esq.
Governor of Pensylvania

[A66]

/at Winchester

Monday 17th. September 1753

Mr. Montour came & thank'd the Comissioner for the good Effects of his Orders, for preventing the Ordinary Keepers giving the Indians spirituous Liquors whilst they remain'd in Town; And as the Indians

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were now on their Departure homewards, desird he might have some Publick Precept to make Use of as Occasion might offer on the Road. Accordingly gave one, of which a Copy is underwritten -

Winchester

Whereas certain Chiefs of the six Nations, Delawars, Shawnese, Wayondotts, & Twightwees, with their Attendants, Men, Women, & Children, in Number Ninety Eight, have lately met at Winchester. & there had many Conferences with Me, who was appointed thereunto by the Governor of Virginia's Comission, under the Great Seal thereof. And having finish'd the several Matters that call'd us together, the said Indians propose returning Home through Pen= sylvania, being desirous of seeing the Governor of that Province, at Carlisle, But forasmuch as the Giving of strong spiritous Liquors in too great Quan= tities to the Indians may greatly impede their March. I earnestly desire & require all Sheriffs, & Ma= gistrates to be aiding & assisting to Mr Andrew Montour, in order to prevent such Delivery of immoderate Spirits whilst They are on their Pro= gress in Virginia; And every Ordinary Keeper who shall offend herein, on Complaint made, must

L.C. 5:3:4

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expect to be Prosecuted for being the Cause of the Drunkeness & Disorder, this Notice is given to Prevent.

Given &c^{a} this 17th Sept^{r} 1753 & 27th Year of his Britannick Majesty's Reign —

W: Fairfax

To all whom it may Concern

[p 4]

Mem^{dm}

Though the Indians did not possitively, in Answer to my Speechs. give a Concession to the Lands on Ohio, agreeable to the Grant given last year; the Reasons then were, there were two Canuagras, or French Indians in their Company, of whom they had a suspicion, & were not willing to declare their strong Affection to the English in their Presence; but I am convinc'd the Indians incline We should have those Lands. They were apprehensive his Majesty had given the Grant to several of His Subjects, but I did not care to touch upon that Subject; And I doubt not when your Honour meets them next year, they will chearfully & faithfully confirm the said Lands to His Majesty —

A true Copy
p Wm Hatchers

Wm: Fairfax

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Endorsed. Virginia / Narrative of the Proceedings / of Mr Wm Fairfax with certain / Chiefs of the six united Nations / of Indians & their Allies / recd with Govr Dinwiddies / Letter of 11. Novr 1752 / W. 128. / Recd Jany 28 / Read March 27 } 1754 / E

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[Three items of Minutes of Council of Virginia, dated 15, 17 and 19 Dec 1753 relating to the Governor's demand of pistole &c]

Endorsed. Virginia. / Copy of Minutes of / Council of / the 15. 17. 19. Dec.r 1753. / Rec'd with Mr Dinwiddie's / Lre of 29. Dec.r 1753. / Recd Febry 18 / Read April 2 } 1754. / NY. 130 / 11. [P76]

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[wrong; bound

Williamsburg Virginia Decr. 29th 1753. [Rec'd]

Right Honble

The enclos'd is a Copy of my last, to which I beg to be refer'd. The Messenger sent to the French Comander on the River Ohio is not yet arriv'd, that I cannot write You any further on that Affair, but daily expect his return, when shall send You Copy of his Report.

Our House of Burgesses sat near seven Weeks without doing such essential Business as I recommended it them by his Majesty's Comands; they have not rais'd any Supplies in case there shou'd be Occasion, & seem very easy upon the Accounts we have of the French Forces, or the Necessity & Utility of cultivating a firm Friendship with the Indians; however as that is an Object I have always had at Heart, it shall not prevent my delivering his Majesty's Present, next May to the Indians, & to endeavour to confirm a lasting Alliance & Friendship with the different Tribes of Indians.

The House of Burgesses have spent a great deal of their Time about my Fee of a Pistole, for affixing the Seal & Signing Patents for His Majesty's Lands. Six Inland Counties out of forty eight have Petition'd the House against this Fee; the Petitions were Sign'd by many People that had not a Foot of Land, & dare say never will; these Petitions were supported in the House by some hot-headed young Men They address'd me on the

Head; I answer'd that the Fee was taken by the Ad-
-vice of the Council here, & approved of by proper
Authority from Home; which they all knew was the
Right Honble the Lords of Trade. which they slighted.
& grew into violent Heats. which I endeavour'd by
such Arguments as was consistent with the Preroga-
[pro]
-tive of the of the Crown, / His Majesty's Revenue of
Quit Rents, & my own Hon: to bring them into Reason,
but they still continued. excessively warm on the Subject.

The Council, as Part of the Legislature. en-
-deavour'd to reconcile them, formed a Bill & sent
down to their House, Copy of which I enclose Y:
Lordships. which they with much Ill-manners
rejected, without returning it with Amendments, as
usual in such Cases: & after much Time spent
they resolved to address His Majesty, by way of
Complaint against me for taking that Fee. ——
I think the Fee is not the Object of their Com-
-plaint, but my earnest Endeavours to bring the Kings
Lands that have been taken up, & Occupied for some
Years, to be Patented & brought on the Rent Roll.

On my Arrival, I found in the Secretary's
Office a List of Lands taken up, to the Amount of
near a Million of Acres, which, most of them should
have been Patented, & brought on the Rent Roll in
my Predecessors Time, I have since my Arrival en-

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deavourd to get the Lands properly Patented, & so subjected to pay His Majestys Quit-rents. I have ac. cordingly granted Patents for 294,755 Acres, & there remains unpatented 66 70 45 Acres, prior to my Arri. val, which is an annual Loss to his Majestys Re. venue; they say now, the Reason is, they will not pay the Pistole Fee, which occasiond their not taking out their Patents. I answerd that I willing. ly would give up the Fee, if they would pay the Arrears of Quit Rents: They were too warm to be reasond with.

So they further resolved, that Payton Randolph Esqr His Majestys Attorney General for this Dominion, & a Member of their House, be appointed their Agent to negotiate this Address, & their Affairs at Home: He desired my Leave to go, which I refused, told him he had not acted agreeable to his Duty, & the Office he was in, not to support His Majesty's Quit Rents in the House: However he has agreed to go Home, what Figure he will make as Attorney Gent in appearing against His Majesty's Lieut Gover. nor, & when His Majesty's Quit Rents is so much concerned; how he will be Supported & Rewarded for this unprecedented Step, Time must tell us.

Agreeable to Sr. Dudley Ryder's Opinion, I have acted consistent with my 51st Instruction, in.

(p 111)

having the Advice of the Council, & Y^r. Lordship's Appro-
-bation, he says the Legislature here has no Business
with it, as it's an affair relating to the Crown
Lands, the Disposal of them being invested in the
Governor & Council: I shall be glad Our House of
Burgesses be duly convinced of this from Home,
for they will not believe me, or rely on S^r.
Dudley Opinion; conceiving themselves more Wise than
any other Body of People upon the Face of the Earth.

The Council here addressd His Majesty in my
Favour, to vindicate my Character from the unjust
Reflections in the House of Burgesses Address, which
I enclose to Your Lordships, to be presented to
His Majesty as You shall see proper. As
His Majestys Quit Rents are so nearly concerned,
I have sent a Duplicate of the Address to the Earl
of Holdernesse, not knowing how it is to be pre-
-sented to the Royal Hand. — Another I send
to the Earl of Albemarle as chief Governor of this
Dominion, which I hope will meet with Your Approbation.

On the 4^th of this Month the House of Bur-
-gesses agreed to four Resolves, as the Journals of their
House are not ready to be transmitted, I send You
Copy of them, the last appears to me to be of an
extraordinary Nature, & introductive of Rebellion among
the People. I am told, they declare, if any Lawyers

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are tryed before Governor & Council, in regard to Lands not Patented, or brought on the Rent Roll, they will combine together to resist any such Order; & I humbly think, as to the Lands so bo.. cultivated without paying Quit rents, there should be an Instruction to regulate them, in such Manner as may be judged most proper at Home—

The People do say they have an equitable Right to their Lands, on returning their Surveys, & paying the Right Money; I agree with them, if they will admit the same equitable Right in the Crown to have the Quit rents to comence from the same Period.

In short, My Lords, I have been much har.. rass'd in this Affair, & with much ill-usage, & Reflections; but as I am in my Duty in sup.. porting His Majesty's Revenue of Quit Rents, & re.. gular agreeable to my Instructions, in having the Council's advice, & the Hon.r of Your Lordships Appro.. bation in taking this petty Fee, which is no more than 16/8 Sterl.g for fixing the Seal, & Signing Pa.. tents, some Times for 1000. 3000 & some Times for larger Quantities of Land; & at other Times smaller Quantities I hope I shall have the Hon.r of Your Countenance, Interest, and Protection, that I may be clear'd from the invidious Reflections of the House of [P.70]

Burgesses, & the Fee to be fully Establish'd if there is any Occasion for anything further than what is already done therein.

I hope Your Lordships will pardon me for troubling You with this long Letter, as his Ma=jesty's Quit Rents are so greatly concern'd, I doubt not of Your kind Interposition, & that my Character may be clear'd from their unjust Reflections; they have no Complaint against me but this petty Fee, which I hope You will think does not lye before them. I have the Honour of assuring You that I remain with grateful Respects & Duty—

Right Honble

Yr. Lordships much Oblig'd
& Obed.t humble Servt.

Robt. Dinwiddie

Right Honble. Lords of Trade

[R.7th]
Endorsed. Virginia / Letter from Lieu.t Gov.r / Dinwiddie dated December 29th 1752 / to the Board relative / to the As=sembly's disputing his / right to receive a Fee for / affix=ing the Seal to Patents / for Lands &c & inclosing. /
Recd Febry 18 } 1753. / W. 129. / 4 Papers. / 10 /
Read April 2 }

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[Four Resolutions of the House of Burgesses, same as in C.O.5.14. p. 113.]

Endorsed Virginia / Copy of four Resolves of / the (CR 30)
House of Burgesses / of Virginia relating to M.r / Dinwiddie's
fee of a pistole / for sealing Patents / Recd with M.r Din.
-widdie's Lre of 29 Dec.r 1753. / Recd Febry 18 / Read April 2 } 1754. / W. 131. /
12.

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Quere [153]

"Whether the Governor & Council of Virginia, in such Case, of their own Authority, without the Concurrence or Interposition of the Assembly, may not Settle, & Establish such Fees, for Granting the King's Lands, as to them shall appear reasonable When there is no aforesaid, no Particular Provincial Law to the Contrary, The Reasonableness of such Fees in such Cases, so Settled, by the Governor & Council, being always, Subject to the King's Approbation, or Dis. approbation, to whom the Governor & Council of Virginia submit themselves, & NB. the Lords for Trade have Declared their Approbation of this Fee, so given to the Governor as aforesaid —

I am of Opinion the Concurrence of the Assembly is not necessary to settle these Fees, The Crown has the Right to do it & the Setting them by the Governor & Council in Virginia by his Majesty's Order will be good and binding. But as there must have been, before 22d April 1752. some usual Fees taken for affixing the Seal of the Province to the Grant of Lands. it will be by no means advisable to Increase those Fees without a special Direction from his Majesty for that Purpose —

D: Ryder 1st Feb. 1753.

Copy

[R.66] Endorsed. ~~Copy of a Resolves of the House of~~ / ~~Burgesses~~ ~~Quer~~ Sr. D: Ryder's / Answer to the Quere propos'd. / Virginia / Copy of Case relative / to the Fee of a Pistole / with Sr. D Ryder's / Opinion upon it. / Recd with Mr. Dinwiddy's / Lre of 29 Novr. 1753 / Recd Febry 18 / Read April 2 } 1754 / W. 132 / 13.

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[same as in C.O. 5. 14. pp. 33 and 111]

To the Kings most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of His Majestys most dutifull and loyal Subjects the Members of His Majestys Council of Virginia,

Most Gracious Sovereign,

We Your Majestys most dutifull and loyal Subjects, the Council of Virginia, deeply concerned that an Administration so conformable to Your Ma. -jestys gracious Example and Intentions for the Wel. -fare of Your People, as is that of Your Majesty's present Lieutenant Governor of this Colony and Do. -minion, should without just and real Cause be complained of as arbitrary and oppressive, and our publick Repose thereby disturbed: And thinking Ourselves obliged to do Justice to the unblameable Conduct of our Governor, do most humbly beg Leave to lay before your Majesty the Truths which have in. -duced Us on this Occasion to approach your Sacred Throne. We do accordingly represent to Your Majesty, that upon the arrival here of Your Majestys Gover. -nor, he produced Your Majestys royal Warrant for the keeping and affixing the Public Seal of this Your Majestys Colony and Dominion, to all Patents for Land, and other public Instruments requiring the same; and desired the Opinion of the Board, whether he might take a Fee for signing and sealing of

C.O. 5: 1375

Patents; the Matter being then put off for further Consider-
-ation. We Your Majestys Council after mature Deliberation,
conceiving it for your Majesty's Service, did on the
22d of April 1752. advise and consent that the Go-
-vernor should demand and take One Pistole, as
a moderate and reasonable Fee for every Patent,
for Land, by him signed and sealed; which Opi-
-nion being transmitted by your Majesty's Governor
to the Right Honorable the Lords Commissioners of
the Board of Trade; they were pleased to confirm
the same in these Words "We find that the Go-
-vernors of other His Majesty's Provinces do take a
Fee on the like Occasions, and as a Pistole appears
to Us to be a reasonable Charge, We have no Ob-
-jection to your taking that Fee according to the
Advice of your Council." The House of Burgesses being
unhappily prevailed with to take this Affair into
their Consideration, and to represent to Your Majesty
as a public Grievance the Proceedure of Your Majesty's
Governor in demanding the said Fee, pursuant to
the advice of Your Majesty's Council, and the
Approbation of the Lords of Trade. On this Complaint
of the Burgesses, We being desirous of preserving the
public Quiet, and only solicitous that Your Majes-
-ty's just dues should be satisfied and paid; and
the Governor being informed of their Dissatisfaction,

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and declaring in Council that he would not require any Fee for signing and affixing the Seal to any Patents for Land but such as were posterior to the 22d of April 1752. (when the Order of Council was made public) provided a Law were enacted for the Payment of the Arrears of Quit-Rents from that Time; in Consequence thereof We your Majesty's Council did in our Capacity as Part of the Legislature of this Colony prepare and pass a Bill for the Purposes aforesaid: to which We desired the Concurrence of the House of Burgesses; but the Bill being by them rejected, and finding all Methods of Accommodation We could propose, consistent with our Duty, to avail nothing, We most humbly lay the same at your Majesty's royal Feet, beseeching your Majesty to be assured that our utmost Endeavours always have been, and ever shall be exerted to promote the Honour and Interest of your Majesty, and the Welfare and Prosperity of this your antient Colony and Dominion.

(P. 66)

Endorsed. Virginia / Copy of an Address &c / of the Council of Virginia / to the King. / Recd with Mr. Dinwiddies / Lre of the 29 Decr. 1753. / Recd 18 Febry / Read April 2 } 1754 / NV. 133. / 14.

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C.O. 5: 1328

Williamsburg Virginia Jan.y 29th (May) 1754

Right Honble

This is to acquaint You, that Mr. Washington the Gentleman I sent to the Comandant of the French Forces on the River Ohio, returnd here the 16th Curt.

I enclose Yr. Lordship Copies of my Commission to him, his Instructions, a Letter of Protection for his safe passing & repassing to the French Camp, & my Letter to the French Comander. — You also have enclosd Copy of Mr. Washingtons Journal, & the French Comanders Letter in answer to mine which You may observe is wrote in a very loose Style; he wou'd have been glad if this Messenger had been directed to proceed to Canada, which is a Journey of eight hundred Miles from the Fort they have erected on a Creek that runs into the Ohio: in order to prolong Time. — He complains I did not write Particulars of the ill Treatment they had done to the British Subjects, contrary to Treaties subsisting between the Crowns of Britain & France; which I cou'd not properly do when Mr. Washington left this, as it was only from Reports, but he had my Orders on these Surmises, to ask the Comanding Officer—

1st— His reasons for taking the British Subjects that were trading with the Indians, & robbing them of their Goods, & sending them Prisoners to Canada; which he justified by saying, he had

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his General's Orders so to do; their General, who is Go-
vernor of Canada, he says, orders them to take
all the English they find on the Waters of Ohio
river Prisoners, & if Traders to seize on their Goods,
for they would allow them no Trade with the Indians.
2dly — His reasons for taking the House belonging
to one Mr Frazer an English Subject, which was
built by him & that he had lived in upwards
of twelve Years, he said it was consistent with their
Orders from their General, & if Frazer had not made
his Escape, they would have sent him Prisoner to Canada.

Mr. Washington had my Orders to make
what Observations he could on his journey, & to
take a Plan of their Fort, which I now enclose You,
& from these Directions his Journal becomes so large—
He assures me that they had begun another Fort
at the Mouth of the Creek, which he thinks will
be finished by the Month of March. — There
were in the Fort where the Commander resided,
about 300 regular Forces; & nine hundred more
[pge] were gone to Winter Quarters (in order to save their
Provisions) to some Forts on Lake Erie &c. but that
they were to return by the Month of March; then
they fully determin'd with all the Forces they
cou'd collect, which he understood would be fif-
teen hundred regulars, besides Indians; to go down

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the River Ohio, & proposd building many other Forts, & that their chief residence would be at the Logs-town; & that they had near three hundred Canoes to transport their Soldiers, Provisions & ammunition &c.

They cannot offer any reasons for this extraordinary Conduct, but their Generals Orders; or can they set up any just Claim to these Lands, but their determind Resolution to possess themselves of it by Force of Arms, & the ill Treatment of the British Subjects in the Time of Peace, inconsistent with Treaties & I humbly think, contrary to the Law of Nations.

The just right his Majesty of Great Britain has to these Lands, may be deducd from the Treaty of Lancaster in the Year 1744 with the Six Nations &c. settled on the Ohio Waters, which Treaty was confirmed in the Year 1752, at Logstown, when I sent Commissioners to deliver the Indians a Present from His Majesty, when the Indians living on the Ohio confirmd the Grant of these Lands to the Crown of Great Britain, with Liberty to build strong Houses; & last Year sent me a Message to build some Forts on the Ohio, to protect their Women & Children, when they went to War, & to support them in their Trade & Hunting; in Consequence thereof, there are now People out at the Ohio, in order to build a Fort.

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My Lords, can there be a more equitable right to the Lands on the Ohio, than by having it confirmd to the British Crown by the original Proprietors of the Soil? may I say by a fair Purchase; for at the Treaty of Lancaster, they complaind that the Present was too small for so large a Grant; the Commissioners then promisd to represent the same to their Father, the King of Great Britain; who was graciously pleasd to order them £500 value of Goods, which I deliverd them in the Year 1752, & now have a further Present of £1000 to give them in May next.

Under the certain right of the Crown of Great Britn this Majesty was pleasd to grant to some of his Subjects, five hundred Thousand Acres of Land on the Waters of the Ohio, under the Name of the Ohio Company. ~ This Company & their Grant, is well known to the Governor of Canada, & that they have, at great Expence begun their Settlement, agreeable to their Grant, but some of their People are returnd being seizd with a Panick on the Threats of the French, & their seizing all they can lay their Hands on belonging to the British Subjects, & its further surmizd that they spirit up the Indians in their Interest, to way lay them, & Murder them. ~ Some of our Subjects in the

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Frontiers of this Dominion, have lately been barbarously Murder'd & Scalp'd, & said to be done by the French Indians. P 99.

After the return of Mr Washington, I call'd the Council & with their Advice I have order'd a Draught of two hundred of the Militia, from two of the Frontier Counties to march to the Ohio, to protect & assist those already there in building the Fort.

His Majesty's Command for a mutual Sup-ply, I laid before our House of Burgesses, at the last Sitting; they did not give due Obedience to it; but I have now order'd them to meet the 14th of next Month, when I hope they will come in better Temper, to enable me to raise four or five hundred Men more to go to Logstown, & I shall write to all the neighbouring Governments for their Aid & Assistance, which, with our friendly Indians, (I hope will be able to defeat the Designs of the French,) if they will be active, & have them there early in the Spring. — I am sorry to find that our Militia is in very bad order; I divided this Dominion a little after my Arrival, into four Districts, & appointed an Ad:-jutant to each, to bring them into a proper Knowledge of the use of their Arms, but I dread if we get them together, they will make but

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a poor Figure against the French regulars; I shall do all in my Power to encourage them, & it will give me much Pleasure if the Steps I have taken meets with Approbation at Home—

The Guns Powder &c.ª is arrivd here from the Board of Ordnance, the Guns are much too large to be transported so great a Distance by Land, & in bad Roads: However I shall make a Tryal of Ten, if we can get them carried to the Fort they will be very serviceable; If possible cou'd have twenty Guns something larg-er than Blunderbuss fix'd in Tryangles, they wou'd be very portable; & of great Service in going with the Forces, to clear the Woods of small Parties that lurk among the Bushes to annoy the Enemy; if thought proper I doubt not there is such Peices in the Ordnance Stores, & will be of great Service.

I hope You will excuse the length of this Letter, which I cou'd not well abreviate, to give You a proper View of our present Situation, & the De-signs of the French to invade His Majes-tys Lands; & I desire to assure You that I remain with great Reference & Du-tiful Respect —

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Right Honble

Your Lordships much Oblig'd
& most Obedt. hble Servt.

Robt. Dinwiddie

R: Hon: Lords for Trade &c.

Endorsed. Virginia / Letter from Lieut. Govr. / Dinwiddie to the Board / dated 29 Jany. 1754 / relative / to the French Forces on the Ohio. / & inclosing (2 papers) / Recd March 25 / Read April 2 } 1754. / VV. 139. / (P 100)

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Virginia Williamsburg Sept.r 28th 1754. [2553]

Right Hon.ble

My last Letter to Your Lordships was the 15th Inst. which I hope came safe to hand; in that Letter I acquainted You, that our Force at Wills's Creek was near 900, & that I had ordered them to march over the Allegany Mountains, if possible to dislodge the French from the Fort they had taken from us, & always to build a Fort in the most convenient Place the other side of the Mountains, & leave a proper Number of Men in it all the Winter

To my great Surprize, the Week after writing that Letter, I had account that the North Carolina Forces had Disbanded themselves, to the Number of 100, they Deserted in Companies, the Reason they gave was, that the President of that Colony had engaged the Private Men 3 p.d Day, & without Assurance of that Pay they would serve no longer. It was a monstrous Thing to give such Pay to private Soldiers, & the more so, as I had wrote that Gentleman the Establishment of the Pay of our Regiment, which was 8.d p.r Day to the private Men.

This Desertion disconcerted all my Measures, as we have not above 400 Men left, it would be imprudent for them to march over the Mountains against 1500 French & Indians. I therefore have ordered a Magazine

to Stores and Provisions to be built in a convenient Place this side of the Mountains, to build a small Fort, mount their Cannon for their Defence against any Surprize, in hopes by the Spring to have a reinforcement from Great Britain & our neighbouring Colonies, so as to make an effectual Push against the French &c.

The Situation of the French, at present, incurrs a Communication with our friendly Indians, though I hear, they continue Stedfast in our Favour, & have had some Skirmishes with the French & their Indians, & have killed some of them; but I fear they will be reduc'd if we do not act with good Spirit the ensuing Spring, many of them are come into the Inhabitants, & they are properly taken care of.

I wrote You in my last that our Assembly was to meet the 22d: Ulto they met accordingly, & I thought with good Inclinations to strengthen me to carry on the Expedition: In a short Time the voted 20,000 for the Protection of His Majesty's Subjects from the Insults & Encroachments of the French; but on the third reading of the Bill they clogg'd it with an unprecedented Rider, to pay Payton Randolph Esqr: their Agent 2,500: this Sum was resolved on by the House of Burgesses in the last Novr: Sessions without the Concurrence or

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Approbation of the Council, on which, the Council rejected this Vote of Supply with this Rider to it.

I thought I had weight enough with the House to send up the Bill without the Rider, & argued with them that such a Bill with its Clog was without Precedent & quite unparliamentary, & further, that I believd That, with their other Re-solves of that Session was before the King and Council therefore out of our Hands, & till I heard from Home could do Nothing in regard to the £2,500 —

(P. 2.)

/As I had the Expedition much at Heart, & that Sum would have enabled me to raise some more Forces, for conducing that Scheme formerly Pro-jected for this Fall: I condescended to acquaint them if they would send up a seperate Bill for the £2,500 with a saving Clause till His Majesty's Pleasure was known I would pass it; but they would agree to Nothing, with-out securing the Money directly. wherefore the Council rejected the Bill, & I was obliged to prorogue them to the 17th of October.

Before that Time, I hope to hear the Deter-mination of the Council on their Complaint against me, & on the Resolves of the Burgesses in last Nov.r Session. Enclosed, I send You the Journals of the House of Burgess & that of the Council, by them You may please to ob-serve their Addresses to me, that I had great reason to

exhibited that they would do every Thing for the Good of the Country, & for conducting this necessary Expedition.

The three Independent Companies His Majesty was Graciously Pleased to send for the Defence of this Dominion, as they were in want of Tents, Blankets, Provisions &c? I thought the Country should be at that Charge, I accordingly sent a Message to the House on that Head, & their extraordinary Answer You may observe in their Journal, so that I am obliged to pay these Charges, till I have proper Authority for my Reimbursement, which I have wrote to the Secretary at War about, & shall be much obliged for Your Favour in this Affair.

The House of Burgesses have been extremely Obstinate & self opinioted, at the same Time infatuated & unactive when the Enemy are so near Us, as to have Robbed many of our Frontier Settlers of their Cattle & Corn, and I dread this Winter they will in small Parties commit many Cruelties among our People, who live at great Distance from each other.

I cannot but observe, that I think it impossible to conduct any Expedition in these Parts with a Dependence of a Supply from the Assemblies without a British Act of Parliament to lay a Poll Tax on the whole Subjects in these Provinces, to

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bring them to a Sense of their Duty to the King, to awaken them from their Indolence to take Care of their Lives & Fortunes, but this is most humbly submitted: And I really think this will not fully answer the End without a considerable Force from Great Britain, & all sorts of Ordnance Stores, which are extremely wanted here, & if not quickly done I fear the French will be so strong on the Ohio, that it will be difficult to root them out, & I fear their Views are extended to be Masters of this Continent; They have many Men from France privately imported to Canada & Mississippi, I suppose to prevent giving Intelligence to the British Court; & I doubt not when His Majesty is apprised of the Danger His Dominions on this Continent are exposed to, he will graciously order such reinforcements of Men, & Supply of Ordnance Stores, as to defeat the unjustifiable Usurpations of the French; for they give out that after they have built Forts & made Settlements behind our present Plantations, that they will be assisted from France by Sea with a great Naval Force, to make a Discent on some of our Colonies which generally speaking lie open without proper Fortifications, & only a Dependence on our Militia, which on Arrival here, I found in bad order; I divided this Government into four Districts & appointed an Adjutant to each, to teach the Officers & Men the Art of War,

& exercise of their Arms.

[p. 257] The French, after the Capitulation entered into with Col.° Washington took eight of our People, exposed them to Sale, missing therefr sent them Prisoners to Canada; on hearing this I detained the seventeen Pri-
-soners. Officer & two Cadets, as I am of Opinion after they were in my Custody, Washington could not en-
-gage for their being returned, have ordered a Flag of Truce to be sent to the French, offering the release of their Officer & two Cadets for the two Hostages they have of ours. I hope this Conduct will be approved at Home.

Probably on the next Meeting of the Assembly they will more earnestly consider the dangerous situa-
-tion the Country is in, & grant a Supply, but really there is no Dependence to put therein. This obstinate Infatuation has been General; though late-
-ly Maryland has voted 6,000 & New York 5,000, but these are but trifling Sums to conduct the Expe-
-dition with proper Spirit and to Effect.

I endeavoured to get an Act passed against Mutiny & Desertion, in order to keep our Forces un-
-der proper Dicipline, but the Burgesses cramp't & confined it so much, that the Council rejected it, in short they have all along been backward, in doing anything for His Majesty's Service, & their own Pre-
-servation.

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I can honestly affirm, that every Thing in my Power has been done with Earnestness & Assiduity, & I shall endeavour to keep up the Affair with the few Men I have, till I receive Orders from Home for my future Conduct; but I say with Truth, that without a proper Supply of Men, Money, & Ammunition from Home, that I dread Success. — I am heartily sorry that my repeated Endeavours with Arguments & every Thing I could Suggest, have no Effect on this stubborn Generation, they act quite Inconsistent with their Safety & their Duty to the best of Princes: & I wish some Method could be found out to reclaim them to their Duty, & to their true Happiness of their being Subjects under the British, happy Constitution, & with smaller Sum than any People I know of.

I am in great Pain for my Situation, as I am in Duty willing & ready to execute my Master's Commands, but so cramp'd by the very People that he of his great Goodness, shews his Princely Regard for their Safety & Well-being.

I hope Your Lordships will excuse the Length of this Letter, as I could not well abridge as it's my Duty to lay every Thing open for Your Consideration — I beg Leave to assure You that I

remain with great Deference & just Respect —

Right Honble

Your Lordships

most obliged &

very humble Servt

Robt Dinwiddie

My Lords. The Journals of the Council & Assembly are too bulky for a Letter I have therefore sent them in this Ship in a small Box, with three private Acts for His Majestys assent to them.

R! Hon!. Lords for Trade &c.a —

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Endorsed. Virginia. / Letter from Robert Din/ -widdie Esq!. Lieut. Gov!. of / Virginia, to the Board, dated / 23d. Sept!. 1754. acquainting / their Ldsps with the Desertion / of the N°. Carolina Troops & the / Re- -fusal of the Assembly to / grant Supplies for carry- -ing on / the Expedition agt. the French on / the Ohio & inclosing. / Recd 24 Nov!. / Read D!. } 1754. / NV. 170. / H.

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Co.S. 1328

Williamsburg, Virginia, June 18th 1754. [2617]

Right Honble

I arrived here from Winchester two Days (Sic) ago, I went there to deliver His Majestys Present to the Chiefs of the different Nations of Indians on the Ohio: They sent me a Message that as the French had invaded & taken Possession of their Lands, they did not think it proper to meet me at Winchester, for fear their People would not remain steady, that they had joined our Forces under the Command of Colo Washington, & prayd me to send them some of the Present sent them by their Father the King of Great Britain which I did, to the Care of Colo Washington to be divided amongst them.

I received an Express from Colo Washington acquainting me that a Party of French from the Fort (they took from us some Time ago) came to reconnoitre our Forces, the Half King sent Colo Washington Notice thereof, & desired him to come with a Party of Men, & he would assist to defeat their Designs, he accordingly marchd with forty Men, & joined the Half King, Monacatooch & some other Indians, one of the Indian Runners tract their Feet & came to their Lodgement on the 27th of May, they see our People about one hundred

Yards of, flew to their Arms - immediately a small Skermish ensued, we lost one Man, & two Wounded; We killed twelve & took Twenty one Prisoners, which Mr Washington sent down to me, & are now in Confinement.

They pretended they were coming Ambassadors to our Camp, the contrary thereof Your Lordship will observe by the enclosed Copy of their Instructions & Sum. - mons, if come on peaceful Terms, they would not have hanckerd about our Camp for three Days successively - The Breach was begun by the French in taking our Fort, & this little Skermish was by the Half King & their Indians, we were as auxiliaries to them, as my Orders to the Commander of our Forces to be on the Defensive but now these Ceremonies are to be laid aside, & Endeavours to be made to repell Force by Force, 'till they leave His Majesty's Lands so unjustly Invaded.

In order to effect this, our Forces have erect. - ed a Stockade Fort, near the Monongehela, for a Re. - treat on Occasion. The Independent Company from S: Carolina has joined them; the two Companies from N. York arrived here only four Daies ago, tho' my Lord Holdernesse's Letter was forwarded to the Governor of New York the 1st of Mar. - The Supply from North Carolina
[2:46]
/of 400 Men are on their March, when they are all collected together they will scarcely amount to

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900 Men, & its reported the French Forces will consist of 1500, that I think we are not of Strength sufficient however all in my Power shall be done with great Assiduity.

I have been for some Months flattered with a mutual Assistance from the neighbouring Colo-nies, agreeable to His Majestys Commands to them, & tho' the Assemblies have met several Times, they have done Nothing, or can I have any Depe-dence of Aid from them, & I beg leave to give my humble Opinion, That the Progress of the French ... possessing themselves of His Majestys Lands, will never be effectually opposed but by means of an Act of Parliament, to compell the Colonies to contribute to the Common Cause, independent-ly of Assemblies, which, in these Parts, are either Ignorant, or do not foresee Danger at a Distance, or at least so Obstinate as to pay little Regard to it. I have wrote to Sr Thomas Robinson on this Head, & the Necessity & Urgency thereof, I need not press to Yr Lordship.

I was ordered to conduct this Expedi-tion, which I chearfully undertook, but having only few Men & no Money, You may easily consider the Situation I am in. The Perverseness of our neighbouring Colonies gives me much

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900 Men, & its reported the French Forces will consist of 1500, that I think we are not of Strength sufficient however all in my Power shall be done with great Assiduity.

I have been for some Months flattered with a mutual Assistance from the neighbouring Colonies, agreable to His Majestys Commands to them, & tho' the Assemblies have met several Times, they have done Nothing, or can I have any Depend-dence of Aid from them. & I beg leave to give my humble Opinion, That the Progress of the French ... possessing themselves of His Majestys Lands, will never be effectually opposed but by means of an Act of Parliament, to compell the Colonies to contribute to the Common Cause, independently of Assemblies, which, in these Parts, are either Ignorant, or do not foresee Danger at a Distance, or at least so Obstinate as to pay little Regard to it. I have wrote to S^r Thomas Robinson on this Head, & the Necessity & Urgency thereof, I need not press to Y^r Lordship.

I was ordered to conduct this Expedition, which I chearfully undertook, but having only few Men & no Money, You may easily consider the Situation I am in. The Perverseness of our neighbouring Colonies gives me much

Concern. however for all these Difficulties I shall continue to act to the utmost of my Capicity & Power.

If our Assembly had granted Money in November last when I applied to them agreeable to His Majesty's Orders, I think I should have got a Fort finished, & a number of Forces in it before the the (sic) French came down the River Ohio, but they were so obstinate that I could not prevail with them to believe, or attend to the Designs of the French. — My Endeavours to obtain the Friendship of the Indians has been constant, & I had the Pleasure at Winchester to receive three Strings of Wampum, from the Wyondotts, & other Tribes of Indians, with their Promises to endeavour to bring over the Ottoways, & other Tribes that were in the French Interest, however we must not depend on these Promises, as they are often drawn away by fair Speeches.

Should the French continue to be reinforced, whilst we diminish, for want of a mutual Supply from our neighbouring Colonies, what a Situation must we be in, in that Case we run the Risque of loosing the Indians, & Invaded in our present Settlements.

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I beg Your Lordship's Goodness to consider my present Situation & the Urgency thereof, which compells me to give You so explicite an Account of the Expedition, on this so interesting a Subject, & honour me with Your Favour, & Assistance, I shall with Assiduity & Care prosecute what is begun in supplying our Forces with Provisions &c^{a}—

[p 373]

The Honour of a Letter in answer to this will greatly oblige —

Right Hon^{ble}:

Your most Obedient

humble Servant

Robt Dinwiddie

P: S: The Half King & one more are the Commanders of the Indians on the Ohio by appointment of the Six Nations

R^{t} Hon^{ble} Lords for Trade &c^{a}

[Endorsed]

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C.S./132 8

At the Council Chamber Whitehall [N153]

the 2d day of April 1754

By the Right Honourable the Lords of
the Committee of Council for Plantation affairs

His Majesty having been pleased, by His Order in
Council of the 28th of last Month, to refer unto this Com-
-mittee the humble petition of the Ohio Company, pray-
-ing that upon Donation the Petitioners enlarge their
Settlements and Seat three hundred Familys instead of
One hundred by their former Contract, and in Consideration
of their erecting two Forts, One at Shurtees Creek, and the
other at the Fork where the great Conaway enters
the Ohio, and maintain them at their own Expence,
That His Majesty will be graciously pleased to en-
-large their Grant under the same Exemptions of Rights
and Quit Rents as in the former Instructions, and
to fix the Bounds without any further delay of sur-
-vey from Romanettoe or Kiskominettoe Creek on the
South East Side of the Ohio to the Fork at the en-
-trance of the great Conhaway River, and from thence
along the North Side of the said Conhaway River
to the Entrance of Green Brier River, and from thence
in a Streight Line or Lines to and along the Moun-
-tains to the South East Spring of Mohongaly River,
and from thence Northwards along the Mountains to
the North East Springs of Romanettoe or Kiskominettoe

Creek or till a West Line from the Mountains in-
=tersects the said Spring and along it to its Entrance
into the Ohio, which will prevent all Disputes or Delay
about the Limits, which are necessary to be immediate-
=ly determined, as the Season is advancing to procure
Foreign Protestants and others of His Majestys Subjects
to go on with the Settlement, and to procure Mate-
=rials to erect their Second Fort at the Mouth of the
[P. 134] great Conhaway River (the Fort on Shurtees Creek being
now building to prevent the Intrusion and Incroach-
=ments of the Indians in the French Alliance, and secure
Our Settlements upon the Ohio, which if not im-
=mediately put in Execution before they get possession,
may be highly detrimental to the Colonys, and occa-
=sion a great future Expence to Britain — The Lords
of the Committee this day took the said Petition
into their Consideration, and are hereby pleased to
refer the same (a Copy whereof is hereunto annexed)
to the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations,
to consider thereof, and Report their Opinion thereupon
to this Committee —

W. Sharpe

[For endorsement see p. 134]

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[p. 155]

To the Kings most Excellent Majesty in Council

The humble Petition of the Ohio Company.

Sheweth

That Your Petrs upon Intimation given by sevl Nations of Indians residing near the Ohio and other Branches of the Mississippi near the Lakes Westward of Virginia that they were desirous of Trad-ing with Your Majestys Subjects and quitting the French; And knowing the value of those rich Countrys which were given up and acknowledgd to be your Majestys undoubted right by the Six Nations who are lawfull Lords of all those Lands by Conquest from other Indian Nations at the Treas-ty of Lancaster the 2d day of July 1744 Your Petrs being sensible of the vast Consequence of securing these Countrys from the French did in the Year 1748 form themselves into a Company to Trade with the Indians and to make Settlements upon the Ohio or Allegany River by the Name of the Ohio Company —

That the Company in the beginning of the Year 1749 Petitioned your Majesty wherein they set forth the vast Advantage it would be to Britain and the Colonys to anticipate the French by taking possession of that Country Southward of the Lakes to which the French had no right

nor had then taken any possession except a small Blockhouse fort among the Six Nations below the falls of Niagara, they having deserted Le Detroit Fort Northward of Erie Lake during the War and retired to Canada: The reasons for securing the same being mentioned at large in their said former petition and in which they prayed that Your Majesty won'd give Orders or Instructions to Your Govr of Virginia to make out to Your Petrs five hundred Thousand Acres betwixt Romanetto and Buffaloe Creeks on the South Side of the Allegany or Ohio River and between (150) the two Creeks and Yellow Creek on the North Side of that River, upon the Terms and with the Allowances therein mentioned to which they beg leave to refer.—

That Your Petrs in pursuance of the sd petition obtained an Order from Your Majesty to Your Lieut Govr of Virginia dated March 18th 1748/9 to make them a Grant or Grants of 200,000 Acres of Land between Romanettoe and Buffaloe Creeks on the South Side of the Ohio and betwixt the two Creeks and Yellow Creek on the North Side thereof or in such part to the Westward of the great Mountains as the Company shou'd think proper for making Settlements and extending their Trade with the Indians with a Proviso that if they did not erect a Fort on the sd

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Land & maintain a sufficient Garrison therein & seat at their proper expence a hundred Familys thereon in Seven years the sd Grants should be void. And as soon as these terms were accomplished he was ordered to make out a further Grant of Grants of 200,000 Acres under the like Conditions Restrictions and Allowances as the first 200,000 Acres adjoining thereto & within these Limits. These Orders were delivered to the Honble Wm Nelson on the 12th of July follow. :ing 1749 and upon producing them before the Govr & Council they made an Entry in the Council Books that the Company should have leave given them to take up and survey 200,000 Acres within the places mentioned in your Majestys said Instructions and Orders

That your Petrs upon this Entry in the Coun. :cil Books sent to Great Britain for a Cargoe of Goods to begin their Trade & purchased Lands upon the Potomack River being the most convenient place to erect Storehouses; and in Septr following 1749 employ. :ed Gentlemen to discover the Lands beyond the Moun. :tains to know where they should make their Surveys But they not having made any considerable progress the Company in Septr 1750 agreed to give Mr Christopher Gist £150 certain and such further / handsome [207] allowance as his Service should deserve for searching th

discovering the Lands upon the Ohio and its sevl Branches as low as the falls on the Ohio with proper Instruc-tions He accordingly set out in Octr 1750, & did not return 'till May 1751 after a Tour of 1200 Miles in which he visit-ed many Indian Towns and found them all desirous of entring into strict Friendship & Trade with Your Ma-jestys Subjects.

That Your Petrs at their general Meeting in May 1751 judging it necessary for their Trade and passage to the Ohio to have a Grant of some Lands belonging to Maryland and Pensilvania wrote to Mr Hanbury to apply for the same to the proprietors & laid out & opened a Waggon Road sixty feet wide from their Storehouse at Wills's Creek to the three Branches on Yaugaugain River computed to be near eighty Miles And applyed to the president and Masters of Wil-liam and Mary College for a Commission to a Surveyor to lay out the Lands as they pretend they had a Right so to do proposing to begin the Survey after receiving Mr Gists Report —

Your Petrs finding by sd Gists Journal that he had only observed the Lands on the North Side of the Ohio and finding that the Indians were willing that they should then Settle on the Mia-mees River or on the North Side of the Ohio & the Lands lying too much exposed & at too great a dis-

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. tance as may appear by the Chart hereunto annexed to which your Petrs beg leave to refer; They employed the sd Gist to go out a second time to view and examine the Lands between Mohongaly and the Big Conhaway Woods or New River on the South East Side of the Ohio which employed him from 4th Novr 1751 to the March following 1752 but he could not finish his plan & Report before Octr 1752 at which time the Company gave in a petition to the Governor and Council praying leave to survey and take up their first 200,000 Acres between / Romanettoes otherwise Kisko- (P 50)
. minettoes Creek & the Forks of the Ohio and the great Conhaway otherwise New River otherwise Woods River on the South side of the Ohio in se
. veral Surveys —

The Govr & Council having not thought fit to com.
. ply with the prayer of the sd Petition to allow Your Petrs to survey their Lands in different Tracts as would best accommodate the Settlers & secure their Frontiers from Attacks the President & Masters of the College also refusing to give out a Commission to a Surveyor & the late Govr & Com.
. cil having made out large Grants to private Persons Land jobbers to the amount of 1,100,000 Acres immediately nay even the same day after Your Majestys Instructions for making out your Petrs Grants & Surveys became publickly known where the Lands were not properly described or

limited nor surveyed; by which means their several Grants might have interfered with the Lands discovered & chosen by the Company your Petrs were laid under difficultys in surveying and settling their Lands & erecting the Fort tho' your Petrs have been at very great expence & are willing to be at a much greater to secure those valuable Countrys and the Indian Trade -

That your Petrs apprehend from these Obstructions and the delay & expence attending Surveys & from the Suits that may be commenced upon Account of the Grants made out to other persons since the Instructions given by Your Majesty to grant to your Petrs the Lands mentioned in the said Instructions which may occasion longer delays. The Company may be prevented from fulfilling their Covenants of settling the Lands & compleating their Fort in the time specified by the said Contract And as Boundarys to large Grants are much more natural and easy to be ascertained by having Rivers for their Limits & streight Lines or [illegible] Mountains to connect them from River to River & at much less expence and delay in fixing them.

Therefore Your Petrs pray that upon Condition your Petrs shall enlarge their Settlemts & Seat three hundred Familys instead of One hundred by their former Contract and in Consideration of their erecting two Forts One at Shurtees Creek and the other at the

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York where the great Conhaway enters the Ohio, and maintain them at their own Expence That Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to enlarge their Grant under the same exemption of Rights and Quit Rents as in the former Instructions & to fix the Bounds without any further delay of Survey from Romanetto or Kuskominetto Creek on the South East Side of the Ohio to the York at the Entrance of the great Conhaway River and from thence along the North Side of the said Conhaway River to the Entrance of Green Brier River and from thence in a Streight Line or Lines to and along the Mountains to the South East Spring of Mohongaly River and from thence Northwards along the Mountains to the North East Springs of Romanettoe or Kuskominettoe Creeks or till a West Line from the Mountains intersects the said Spring and along it to its entrance into the Ohio which will prevent all Disputes or delay about the Limits which are necessary to be immediately determined as the Season is advancing to procure foreign Protestants and others of Your Majestys Subjects to go on with the Settlement & to procure materials to Erect their Second Fort at the Mouth of the great Conhaway River (the Fort on Shurtees Creek being now building) to

[P.60]

prevent the intrusion and incroachments of the Indians in the French Alliance and secure Our Settle-ments upon the Ohio which if not immediately put in Execution before they get possession may be highly detrimental to the Colonys and Occasion a great future expence to Britain

And Your Petrs will ever Pray &c.a

signed Arthur Dobbs
J. Hanbury
Samuel Smith
James Wardrop
In behalf of Ourselves and the rest of the Ohio Company.

[P.61]

Endorsed. Virginia / Order of Council / dated 2d of April 1754 / referring to the Consideration / of this Board the humble / Petition of the Ohio Compy / to his Majesty praying / an Enlargement of their / Grant of Lands and for / ascertaining their / Boundaries. / Recd April 4 / Read — 5th } 1754. / W. 148. / 31.

Also endorsed. 2d Apl 1754. / Reference of the Ldo of the Commrs / of Council to the Ldo of Trade, of the / Petition of the Ohio Company praying / an Enlargemt of their Grant of Lands &c / for ascertaining their Boundarys / Jos. Sharpe. / Solr.

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At the Council Chamber Whitehall

the 2d day of April 1715

seal impressed on paper over wafer

By the Right Honourable the Lords of the Com.
mittee of Council for Plantation affairs

His Majesty having been pleased, by His Order
in Council of the 28th of February last, to refer unto this
Committee the humble Address of the House of Burgesses of
the Colony of Virginia Setting forth that to the Westward
of the Ridge of Mountains which seperates the Rivers Roanoke
James and Patowmack from the Mississippi there is an ex
tensive Country lying within the Bounds of the said
Colony, in which, but few of His Majestys Subjects are yet
seated, besides some friendly Nations of Indians on or
near the River Ohio who have long since given up their
Lands to His Majesty, and that as the Peopling of that
part of the Country is of the greatest consequence to His
Majestys Colonys in America, they earnestly intreat His
Majesty, that he will be graciously pleased to grant
his Lands in small Quantitys free from the payment
of Rights and Quit Rents for the Term of Ten years.
which, from the like Indulgence granted to the Coun.
=tys of Spotsilvania and Brunswick at their first Erec.
tion in 1720, they are assured will produce the most
happy and desirable Effects, and without which all the
Encouragements in their power given to Foreign Protestants
to settle on those Lands will not be sufficient. And re.

presenting that several of His Majestys Subjects having obtained Grants for very large Tracts of those Lands with an Indulgence for several years for compleating the Surveys of the / same, and making Settlements thereon, the poorer sort of people are deterred from settling themselves on any of the Lands between the said Mountains and River Mississippi for [illegible] they should be taken in by those Grants, and after great trouble and Expence, be under the necessity of removing to some other Country, or of purchasing from those Grantees, at such Rates as they think fit to demand for them, which has been, and will always continue a great Obstruction to the peopling of that part of the Country unless remedied by His Majestys gracious Interposition; They therefore humbly hope to obtain these several Favours, and they then make no doubt but Foreign Protestants will be induced to settle among them, and that they shall be thereby enabled to support His Majestys just title to that Territory against the Pretensions of the French, and bind the neighbouring Indians in a firm and lasting Friendship — The Lords of the Committee this day took the said Address into their Consideration, and are hereby pleased to refer the same (a Copy whereof is hereunto annexed) to the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations to consider thereof, and Report their Opinion thereupon to this Committee —

W: Sharpe

[In endorsement on page]

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To the Kings most Excellent Majesty [1697]

The humble Address of the House of Burgesses—

Most gracious Sovereign

We Your Majestys most loyal Subjects the Burgesses of Virginia now met in General Assembly beg leave to render Our dutyful and hearty thanks to your Majesty for the regard Care and Protection You have ever extended to this your most antient Colony & to assure your Majesty that We are devoted to Your Royal person & house with the sincerest Fidelity and warmest Affection —

Having most gracious Sovereign out of Zeal to your Majestys Service & in Duty to Our Country taken every Measure at this time in Our Power for the safety of your Subjects here & the extension of this Dominion We presume with all humility to lay before You the Circumstances of this Colony & to submit to Your great Wisdom the means whereby it may be better improved on Our Frontiers, secured from the Incroachments of the French, and a proper Friendship cultivated with the neighbouring Indians—

To the Westward of the ridge of Mountains which seperates the Rivers Roanoke James and Potow-mack from the Mississippi there is an extensive Country lying within the Bounds of this Colony as they are described in his Majesty King James the

first Charter bearing date the twenty third day of May in the Seventh year of his Reign in which but few of Your Majestys Subjects are yet seated and some friendly Nations of Indians on or near the River Ohio who have long since given up their Lands to Your [5·68]
Majesty As the peopling of this part of the Country is of the greatest Consequence to this and Your Majestys other Colonies in America but is very difficult by reason of its remoteness from Navigation We did at Our last Session of Assembly give Encouragement by a remission of all publick County & Parish dues for Ten Years to all protestants as well Your Majestys Subjects as Foreigners to settle on those Lands And We have in compliance with the Advice of the Right Honourable the Lords of Trade now confirmed the same, and continued it for fifteen Years from this present time - But We fear that Our Endeavours will not produce the desired Effect unless Your Majesty will be pleased to assist us with Your Royal Beneficence by exempting those who shall settle in that part of the Country from the payment of all Rights and Quit Rents which shall become due to Your Majesty for any Lands taken up and settled by them for the space of Ten Years.

We therefore with the most humble Submission to Your Royal Will and Pleasure earnestly

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intreat your Majesty that You will be graciously pleased to grant your Lands in small and mean Quantitys free from the payment of Rights and Quit Rents for the Term of Ten Years which We are well assured from the like Indulgence grant: :ed by your Royal Father to the Countys of Spot: :silvania and Brunswick at their first Erection in the Year One Thousand Seven hundred and Twenty will produce the most happy and desir: :able Effects and without which all the Encourag: :ment in Our power given to Foreign Protestants to settle on those Lands will not be sufficient —

And from a principle of the highest Duty We beg leave to represent to Your Majesty that several of your Majestys Subjects having obtained (Sir W. Gooch) Grants / for very large Tracts of those Lands with an Indulgence of several Years for compleating the Sur: :veys of the same and making Settlements thereon the poorer sort of People are deterred from settling themselves on any of the Lands between the said Mountains and River Mississippi for fear they should be taken in by those Grants and after great trou: :ble and Expence be under the necessity of remov: :ing to some other Country or of purchasing from those Grantees at such Rates as they think fit to demand from them which has been and

will always continue a great Obstruction to the peopling of that part of the Country unless remedied by Your Majesty's gracious Interposition.

We trusting in Your Majesty's wonted goodness have presumed to ask and hope to obtain these several ffavours and We then make no doubt but Foreign Protestants will be induced to settle among us and that We shall be thereby enabled to support Your Majesty's just Title to this Territory against the pretensions of the French and bind the Neighbouring Indians to Your Majesty's Government in a firm and lasting Friendship—

signed/

John Robinson - Speaker

Endorsed. Virginia / Order of Council dated / 2d April 1754 referring / to the Consideration of / the Board the humble Address / of the House of Burgesses / to His Majesty praying / that He would be graciously / pleased to grant Lands in / lying to the Westward of the / Ridge of Mountains which / seperates the Rivers Roanoke / James & Powtomack in / small Parcels free from the / Payment of Quit Rents / for the Term of ten Years &c / Recd April 11 } 1754 / W. 149. / 32
Read — 5 }

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At the Council Chamber Whitehall

the 11th of July 1734.

Seal impressed on wafers

By the Right Honble the Lords of the

Committee of Council for Plantation Affairs.

Whereas there was this day read to the Lords of the Committee a Report made by the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, dated the 20th of last Month, upon the humble Address of the House of Burgesses of the Colony of Virginia, — Setting forth "That to the Westward of the Ridge of Mountains which separates the Rivers Roanoke, James and Potowmack, from the Mississipi, there is an extensive Country lying within the Bounds of the said Colony, in which but few of His Majesty's Subjects are yet seated, besides some friendly Nations of Indians on or near the River Ohio, who have long since given up their Lands to His Majesty; And that as the Peopling that Part of the Country is of the greatest Consequence to His Majesty's Colonys in America, they earnestly intreat His Majesty, that He will be graciously pleased to grant His Lands in small Quantities free from the Payment of Rights and Quit Rents for the Term of Ten Years, which from the like Indulgence granted to the Countys of Spotsilvania and Brunswick, at their first Erection in 1720, they are assured will produce the most happy and desireable Effects: — The Lords of the Committee this day took

the said Report into their Consideration; and do agree in Opinion with the said Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, That all proper Encouragement should be given for the enlarging and extending the British Settlements in this Part of the Country, especially as the Assembly of Virginia have made considerable Advances at their own Expence towards promoting such Settlements, And that it will therefore be for His Majesty's Service to remit the Quit Rents upon all such Grants as are made to the Westward of the great Ridge of Mountains, to such Persons as shall take up Land there, for Ten Years from the Date of their respective Grants, and also the Fine of Five Shillings upon each Fifty Acres for Ten Years to come Care being taken to prevent Persons already Possessed of Lands in any other Part of Virginia, held by Quit Rents from the Crown, from taking up Lands in this Part of the Province without giving sufficient Security for continuing the Payment of the Quit Rents for the Lands by him already Possessed notwithstanding his Removal. And likewise to prevent any Person from taking up more than One thousand Acres in his Own, or any other Name in Trust for him. — And the Lords of the Committee do therefore hereby Order, that the said Lords Commissioners do prepare a Draught

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of such an Additional Instruction as they shall judge proper to be given hereupon by His Majesty to the Governor of the said Colony. And that they do lay the same before this Committee. —

W. Sharpe.

Endorsed. Virginia. / Order of the Lords of the / Com. [erased] / mittee of Council for Plantations Affairs, dated the 18th of / July 1754. approving a Rept. / of this Board re. / lative to / Settlements to be made to ye. / Westward of the Ridge of / Mountains without paying / Quit Rents for ten Years / & directing them to / prepare an Addl. Instruction / accordingly. / Recd. July ye 25th } 1754. / Read Augt. 6 } / W. 167. / 2.

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of such an Additional Instruction as they shall judge proper to be given hereupon by His Majesty to the Governor of the said Colony, And that they do lay the same before this Committee. —

W. Sharpe.

Endorsed. Virginia. / Order of the Lords of the / Com. [erased] / mittee of Council for Plantations affairs, dated the 18th. of / July 1754. approving a Repr. / of this Board re: / lative to / Settlements to be made to yd. / Westward / of the Ridge of / Mountains without praying / Quit Rents for ten Years / & directing them to / prepare an Addl. Instruction / accordingly. / Recd. July yd. 25th. / Read Augt. 6 } 1754. /
W. 167. / 2.

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At the Court at Kensington.

the 6th day of August 1754.

Present

The Kings most Excellent Majesty

in Council.

Upon reading this day at the Board, a Report from the Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Council for Plantation Affairs dated the 30th of last Month, upon considering a Draught of an additional Instruction prepared by the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations to the Earl of Albemarle His Majestys Governor of Virginia authorizing and requiring him to remit His Majestys Quit Rents upon all such Grants of Lands lying to the Westward of the great Ridge of Mountains as shall be made to persons desirous of settling there for Ten Years from the Date of their respective Grants, and also the Fine of five Shillings upon each fifty Acres for Ten Years to come, taking especial Care, that no person already possessed of Lands in any other part of Virginia, held by Quit Rent from His Majesty be permitted to take up Lands, in this part of the Colony without giving a sufficient Security for continuing the payment of the Quit Rents for the Lands by him already possessed notwithstanding his Removal; And likewise that no greater Quantity than One Thousand Acres be taken up by any one

persons in his own, or in any other Name in Trust
for him - Which / Draught of an Additional Instruction
the said Lords of the Committee have Reported as prop-
: per for His Majesty's Royal Approbation - His Majesty upon
Consideration thereof is pleased with the Advice of His Privy
Council to Approve of the said Draught of Additional
Instruction and to Order, as it is hereby Ordered, that the
Right Honourable Sir Thomas Robinson One of his Majes-
: ty's Principal Secretarys of State do lay the same
(which is hereunto annexed) before His Majesty for His
Royal Signature -

W. Sharpe.

A true Copy

[№ 202]
Endorsed. Virginia. / Copy of an Order of Coun-
: cil / dated 6th of August 1754. / Recd Septbr 17th } 1754. /
Read
W. 171.

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Williamsburg Virginia Mar.12th 1754. [R.193]

Right Honble

My last to your Lordships was the 29th of Jany by His Majestys Sloop Speedwell Capt. Webb. I then transmitted You Majr Washingtons Journal & the Commandant of the French Forces on the Ohio, & the Papers relating thereto, to them I beg to be referd.

Our Assembly met the 14th of Jany with Perswasions, many Arguments, & much Trouble, they were prevaild on to vote Ten Thousand Pounds for protecting our Frontiers; that Bill was so clogd with unreasonable Regulations, & Incroachments on the Prerogative, that I by no means would have given my Assent to it; if His Majestys Service had not immediately calld for a Supply, to assist the Expedition I have in view, to support His Majestys just rights to the Lands on the Ohio.

They plead Precedents in raising Money in this Method which I found was so in my Predecessor's Time, in raising Men to go on an Expedition to Canada. This I urgd should not be a Precedent, as it's contrary to His Majestys Instructions. However as the Exigency of the present Affair could not be otherways supplyd, I was obligd to submit; & for that reason I hope I shall stand Excusd. ~ The Bills are not fairly Ingrossd, that I cannot now transmit them, but shall soon, & then make

my further Observations thereon.

In Consequence of this Supply, I have appointed Officers to raise Six Companies of Volunteers, to be at Alexandria, the Head of Potomack River, by the 20th of this Month They shall have my Orders to escorte the Cannon, Stores, Provisions &c. to the Ohio, to erect a Fort on the Fork of Monongehela, which comands that River, & Part of the Ohio.

Lord Holderness has been pleased to order two of the Companies at New York, to be sent hither; & I have wrote to the neighbouring Colonies for their Aid & Assistance, which, with our friendly Indians, I am in hopes we shall make a tolerable Appearance on the Ohio this Summer to defeat the Designs of the French: I wish for a Regiment of Regular Forces, which would be of great Service, as the French threaten us with having a Thousand or 1500 Regulars at Logstown, besides the Indians.

I have wrote to the Catawbas & Cherokee (two powerful Nations of Indians) to send as many of their Warriors they possibly can spare to the Ohio, by the Middle of Aprill; when I expect they will be join'd by our Forces, to encourage them, I promis'd them a Present from their Father the King of Great Britain, & [1 page] I hope for Your Lordships / Assistance to enable me to perform that Promise. — Every thing in my Power to

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ascertain his Majestys undoubted right to the Lands on the Ohio, shall be done with Earnestness & due Dispatch.

Your Lordships Letter of the 11th Sept.r was forwarded me by Mr. Delancey Lieut. Gov.r of New York; That Gentleman appointed an Interview with the Five Nations at Albany the Beginning of June next.

I laid Your Letter befor our Assembly as we are at great Expence on this Expedition, & that I am to meet many Chiefs of the different Nations of Indians at Winchester in May next. they would not comply in sending Commissioners to Albany with a Present; And indeed the Chiefs I expect to meet at Winchester will be a very great National Service, & think the Southern Indians are more to be courted than the Five Nations, being ten Times their Number, yet it's very necessary to keep a strict Friendship with them all, which I shall constantly endeavour to support.

This Ship being cleard for Sailing shortens me in Time to enlarge, but desire to assure You, that with great Deference & due Respects I am ——

Right Honble

Your Lordships much Oblig'd
Obed.t & faithful Hble Serv.t
Rob.t Dinwiddie.

To the R.t Hon.ble Lords for Trade.

C.O. 5:1328

[1754]

Endorsed. Virginia / Letter from Govr Dinwiddie / to the Board dated 12 March / 1754. informing them that / the Assembly have voted / £10.000 for guarding the / Frontiers & relative to / Indian Affairs. / Recd 13 May / Read 21 — } 1754. / vol. V. 15 4.

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c.0.5 : 1328

Williamsburg May 10th 1754 Virginia (No 211)

Right Honble

By this Ship I transmit Your Lordships, in a small Box, the Acts that pass'd the Assembly of this Dominion; one Sett in December 1753 & another Set that pass'd in February last; as also the Journals of the Coun-cil, & that of the Assembly on their different Meet-ings, & the Lists of Shipping.

I beg Leave to observe to Your Lordships, that on the Assembly's meeting in November, agreeable to his Majesty's Commands, I applied to them for a mutual Supply; to enable me to defeat the Designs of the French, on their intended Invasion on his Majestys Lands on the Ohio, & to support an affectionate Friend-ship with the Indians; to which They gave not the least Attention, but were Prorogu'd without any Supply, which proves a great Hurt to his Majesty's Service.

During this Session they made several Resolves of a very extraordinary Nature, not precedented in any of His Majesty's Dominions; & at the Close of that Session they resolved, that the Attorney General should be paid by the Treasurer £2,500. for negotiating their Affair at Home, & this without the Approbation of any other Part of the Legislature. — The Speaker of the House, who is Treasurer, declared, that if the House would make the Resolve, he would pay the Money

I gave them to understand, that the Treasurer should not have my Warrant for the Money, & in course would not be allow'd in his Account.

They further resolved. That the Atto: General should appoint an Agent at Home to transact their Business for that Service, they of the House of Burgesses, engaged to pay him £200 Sterl: p. Annum out of his Majesty's Money in the Treasurer's Hands. All these Things are done against the Opinion, and without the Advice of the Council, or myself— Your Lord-ships no doubt will observe how Unconstitutional their Proceedings have been, & how they act inconsis-tent with the Prerogative of the Crown, & contrary to my Instructions.

In the Sessions in Febry last, I again press'd the absolute Necessity of a Supply; I had Influence & Weight sufficient to obtain a Vote for £10,000. & by an Act entitled, for the Encouragement & Protection, of the Settlers on the Waters of the Mississippi. They clogged this Bill with many Things unconstitutional, & deroga-tory to the Prerogative —

I went to the Council, & told them, I could not, agreeable to my Instructions, give my Assent to that Bill, for the following Reasons —

[N 212] Their giving a Power to a Committee therein named, to order the Application of the Money, in which Number

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they included four of the Council, contrary to their De-
-sire. That the Bill contains some Clauses of danger-
-ous Consequence; as tending towards an Alteration of
a fundimental Part of the Constitution by taking from
the Governor his undoubted right of the Application of
all Monies raisd for the Defence & Security of the
Country; to which Reasons & Observations the Council
unanimously concurr'd.

But as the Necessity of our Affairs requir-
-ed an immediate Supply, to defeat the Designs of
the French on our Frontiers, as of the greatest Con-
-sequence & required Something to be done this Summ-
~ I therefore, with the Advice of the Council, gave
my Assent to this Bill, & for the above Reasons I hope
to stand excused by Your Lordships.

I determined immediately to dissolve the As-
-sembly; but as their Proceedings are so monstrously
Unconstitutional, I suspended that Step till I heard
from Your Lordships, in hopes of an Order to disso-
-lve them by Proclamation, which will be shewing much
more resentment to their Actions.

Enclosed You have the half Years Accounts
of His Majesty's two Shilling p ℔ Duty ~

[Upon the Assembly's refusing a Supply
in December. by Advice of the Council, I granted a
Commission to Capt. William Trent to raise Men,

& proceed to the Forks of Monongehela on the River Ohio, & there clear the Ground, & begin to erect a Fort; & that I should as soon as possible, send out some Forces to strengthen & assist him. — On the Grant of £10,000. late in Febry. I commission'd Officers to raise three hundred Men. they were compleated by the 10th of April: when a Detachment of 150 Men, under the command of Col: Washington, began their March: when they were within Seventy five Miles of the Fort begun by Capt. Trent: his Ensign came Express to acquaint him that the French, to the Number of 1000 Men, came down the River Ohio, marched up to the Fort & summond them to surrender, & to march out with their Guns & Tools, which they were oblig'd to do: I send You the Ensign's Act upon Oath, with Copy of the French Commander's Summons: Which I conceive to be a most egregious Violation of the Treaties subsisting between the two Crowns, to take Possession of a Fort begun in His Majesty's Name & on his own undoubted Lands. — And

The Indians on the Ohio marchd with our People to a Place called Red Stone Creek, (& enclos'd You have the Half King's Speech to me & my Answer) about Thirty Miles distant from the Fort. I doubt not this Insult will be properly represented to the Court of France; but I am determined not to remain un-

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active in our present situation; the Forces raised here, with 350 raised in North Carolina; with three Independent Companies His Majesty has ordered; I propose to collect them into a Body at Red Stone Creek, & endeavour to dislodge the French from our Fort — No other Colony but North Caro. lina have granted as yet any Supply; but I am now in Hopes they will see the Necessity of raising Forces, which if can make a considerable Number its probable we may turn the Scales upon them.

If our Assembly had granted the small Sum in Nov.r when I first applied for it, I think we might have had the Fort compleated, with a good Garrison of Men in it, before the French appeard; but there is Nothing to be done that way without Money; & the People of these Colonies do not pay a dutiful Compliance with His Majesty's Commands, or think properly of their own Safety — However I am determined to do all in my Power to oppose the Designs of the French, which I cannot help calling them now our Common Enemy.

I never underwent more Fatigue in my Life than in directing & assisting this Expedition, but am sorry it has not succeeded to my Wish & Expectations. I shall still look forward in hopes of a Change in our Favour.

Monday next I proceed to Winchester to meet the Chiefs of the Indians, to deliver His Majesty's Present, but I fear from the above, I shall not have so many as I reasonably might have expected. |

I have not the Honr of a Letter from Yr Lordships of a long Time. I am with great Deference & Respect.

Right Honble

Your Lordships

most Obedt Hble Servt

Robt Dinwiddie

[P. S: I have not the least Expectations of a further Supply from the Assembly of this Dominion.]

Rt Hon Lords for Trade &ca

B 2167

Endorsed. Virginia / Letter from Robert Dinwiddie Esqr / Lieut. Governor & Commander in Chief / of Virginia, to the Board, dated at / Williamsburg 10th of May 1754. / Transmitting / Recd July 2d 1754. / Read / N. 158. / 6.

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Virginia Williamsburg Octr. 25th 1754.

Right Honble

Inclosed You have Copy of my last, since which I am hond. with Your Letters of the 3d & 4th of July. I observe the Council were pleased to reject the Petition of the House of Burgesses of this Dominion, in respect to the Pistole Fee; & that your Lordships were Commanded by his Majesty to regulate the same for the Future.

I beg Leave to observe that, the Fee of a Pistole was never received or demanded by me for Lands under one hundred Acres or shall I ever ask or receive any for less than Your Lordship has prescribed; or shall I ever desire that Fee from Persons Rights, or Importation; or has there been any Grants on that head for these fifty Years, as I am informed from the Secretary's Office.

You are pleased to direct, that no Fee should be received on Sealing Grants of Land in that Part of the Colony that lies to the Westward of the Mountains. With Submission to Your Lordships this wants Explanation. We have the little Mountains, called the Pigmt; the Blue Mountains, & the Allegany Mountains. The Lands to the Allegany Mountains have been greatly taken up, & some remaining to be settled. The Lands on the other side of the Allegany Mountains,

Application has been made to His Majesty for an Exemption from Quit Rents for Ten years; on the Indulgence of the Crown to the Subjects, I always concur & shall constantly continue so to do, to Seal & Sign all Grants of this Nature without Fee; therefore desire to know if your Lordships Reso-lutions are on the Patents of Land the other Side of the Allegany Mountains, otherwise Disputes will still arise.

The Proposition to the Assembly to establish this petty Fee, was from the Council; I was al-ways clear in Opinion that they had no Busi-ness with it, but that it lay with the Council, having Approbation from Home to establish it. Your Lordships are further of Opinion that no Fee should be received on Lands, that the Survey & Works were lodged in the Secretary's Office before the 25th of April 1752, or from Persons who had Orders for Land before that Period. This, My Lords, was the chief Dispute between the People & me; I asked no Fee for these Lands, but as they had possessed and occupied them for many Years, in Order to defraud His Majesty of His Quit Rents; I thought it my Duty, as one of the Stewards of that Revenue, to demand the Arrears of Quit Rents before I Sealed and Signed their Patents; on this head your Lord-ships are Silent, & I defer granting the Patents till I

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have Your Determination thereon; I therefore pray Your Direction herein, (as I conceive it a Grand to that Revenue) & your Commands on this head shall be duly obey'd.

It has been too long a Practice here in the Orders for Land, return their Surveys, Works, & Improvements to the Secretary's Office, by which they pretend it a Legal Right, & enjoy the Lands for many years before they take out a Patent for them, by which the Crown has been greatly defrauded. I would therefore humbly propose, that on the return of the Surveys, Works &c. to the Office, that a Patent be immediately filled up, & accordingly carried to the Rent Roll, this is agreable to the Practace in Lord Fairfax's Propriety of the Northern Neck; I shall therefore wait for our Instructions on these heads, as my puting them in Force from my own Authority, may raise a new Contention between the People & me, which I would gladly avoid.

[Your Commands in regard to the granting not above 1000 Acres to one Person, shall be duly observed for the Future.]

Your kind Favour to Mr. Randolph in recommending him to me, to reinstate him into the Post of Attorney General, is very Condescending. When I consider the Arguements I made use of to

him, not to undertake that inconsistent duty; & the many unjust & false Reflections on me Personally in the publick Papers, makes this Recommendation very disagreeable to me: However, for the Reasons Your Lord-ships are pleased to assign, which are both just and necessary, on his Arrival, if he in a decent & proper Manner makes Acknowledgement of his Errors, & Promise of more regular Conduct for the Future; I shall be glad of every Opportunity to moderate the Heats of the People, at this dangerous Time.

Your Lordships Letter of the 11th of July, I have now before me. Your Sentiments on Indian Affairs, I have the Hon.r of agreeing with You. My View & Inclinations have always been sanguine in cultivating a Friendship with the different Nations of Indians, in Amity with Britain & these Colonies; par-ticularly with the Southern Indians, the Catawbas, & Cherokees; their Emperor, King, & many of their Chiefs have been here; I always entertained them properly, & sent them away pleased with Presents: But the Governor of South Carolina has found great Fault with me; saying, those Nations of Indians are immediately un-der his Care, & therefore I should not interfere with them.

The above two Nations promised me a Num-ber of their Warriors to go against the French on the Ohio. I accordingly called on them early this Spring

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to assist the Forces I had raised, they answered; the Governor of South Carolina ordered them to remain at Home. The different Governors assuming particular Attachments to the Indians out of some Provincial Views; I have observed ever since I have been here, is a real Prejudice to His Majesty's Colonies in General; as some of them act independent, & not as Subjects to one Prince. However I shall in a proper Manner, not to give offence to my neighbouring Governors, endeavour to fix them to the British Interest.

Our Assembly could not be prevailed on to appoint Commissioners to meet the Six Nations at Albany; but I wrote to Governor Delancey to appear in Behalf of this Dominion, which he was / kind enough to do; & if any Meetings hereafter, I shall be particularly careful to have Commissioners [P. 251]
there, even if I should be put to the Necessity of providing for them out of the Funds placed in my hands by His Majesty.

I have received His Majesty's Commands by the Hands of Sir Thomas Robinson, which I shall duly, & with Assiduity obey, & every Thing in my Power, to promote & carry on this essential Expedition, shall be done; & during the Winter Months I shall be carefully preparing Necessaries for the

Campaign in the Spring.

I heartily wish for two Regiments, some Engineers and good Officers, with a supply of Ord-nance Stores, as I humbly pray for in my former Letters, all of which is greatly wanted, & I am of Opinion no Time is to be lost in making a strong Push against the Enemy, for while we are Indolent & neglectful of our Safety, they are gathering Strength. I hear from Potomack River that a Master of a Ship arrived in that River from Britain, reports, that on the Banks of Newfound-land he see 12 Sail of French Men of War full of Men, standing to the Northward; but the Motions & Designs of the French must be better known to you than the Information of a Master of a Ship, who are ready to aggravate & increase Numbers from their own Opinion.

His Majesty has been pleased to appoint Gov.r Sharpe of Maryland, to command the com-bined Forces on this Expedition, which is very agreeable to me. ~ Our Assembly have voted 20,000 towards conducting this necessary Expedition, that, without Assistance from our neighbouring Colonies, and two Regiments from Great Britain, will not answer the End proposed.

I have therefore wrote the Secretary of State

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for Forces from Great Britain, and other necessary Ordnance Stores; which I entreat your Interest in procuring, and the sooner the better, for it may be expected that the French will bring all the Forces they can into the Field next Spring, and M.r Sharpe thinks he will want 400 Men, which I fear will be difficult to raise, I propose raising ten Companies of 100 Men each; but an unhappy Dispute subsists between the Regular Officers of the Independent Companies, and those under my Commission: the former insist on the Command over them; the others will not submit to it; in Case of Action this may be productive of bad Consequences: I therefore praied the Secretary of State for blank Commissions to be filled up by me here, agreable to the Method that was practised on the Cartharagena Expedition, which I submit to him.

Pray excuse the Length of this Letter, and [R 216]
be assured / that I remain with due Respects.

Your Lordship's most obed.t hble Servt

Robt Dinwiddie.

P: S: I have an Express from Potomack wch contradicts the News of a French Fleet on the Banks of Newfoundland

Endorsed. Virginia. / Letter from Robert Dinwiddie Esq.r / Lieut. Gov.r of Virginia, to the Board. / dated at Williamsburg y.e 25.th of October / 1754, / Rec.d Decem.r 16.th / Read Janry 7 } 1754/55 /
W.176. / 6. /

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Virginia Williamsburg Novr 16th 1754 [No 267]

Right Honble

Inclosed You have Copy of my last, & I now send You the Account of his Majestys Quit Rents, & two Shilling p Hhd Revenue; as also the Lists of Shipping from Lady Day to Michaelmas last, to which I beg to be referred.

His Majesty has been graciously pleased to order me 10,000 in Specie, & a Credit to draw for 10,000 more. The Secretary of State writes me, that His Majesty designs the above Sums to be replaced from the 2/- pHhd by Warrants for that Purpose: That Revenue is the only Fund I have to call upon on any emergent Occasion for his Majesty. Service; therefore I most humbly represent to your Lordship, the great Hurt, & Loss to the Expedition, if that Fund, should be applied as above; & therefore earnestly entreat your Lordships Interest, to prevent any Warrant to be issued on that Head.

Our Assembly have voted 20,000 which, with the above Supply, will be greatly deficient in con. ducting the Expedition, & indeed I am still of Opi. nion, that without two Regiments of Men from Britain we shall not be able effectually to defeat the unjust Invasions of the French. In Consequence of the above Supplies I am raising Men, & providing proper Pro. visions for them, which takes up most of my Time,

& that with very great Fatigue however, if I can gain the Point I have in View, in driving the French from his Majestys Lands on the Ohio, I shall think my Time & Trouble very well recompenced; & I beg to assure You, that every Thing in my Power shall be done with Spirit & close Assiduity.

A great Misunderstanding subsist_ between the Officers of the regular Independent Companies, & the Officers appointed by me; the former will not rank with them, or do Duty with them; this may be of fatal Consequence in the Time of Action; I have wrote two Letters to the Secretary of War on the_ Head, but have not received his Answer. The Appointment of Mr Sharpe to command_ in Chief does not obviate the Difference; I have therefore prayd for blank Commissions, as was done in the Expedition to Carthagena; which will put the Officers of the Whole Forces on a greater Equality; & therefore hope His Majesty will be graciously pleased to grant them.

The Fort & Magazine near the Allegany Mountains is finished; which I now intend to be the Place of Rendezvous for all the Forces. [p. 552] Governor Sharpe is gone up there, & I soon/expect to have his Report thereon, & the Time he proposes to march over the Mountains, which

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I am of Opinion will not be till the Spring. —

I remain with great Deference & due Respect.

Right Honble

Your Lordship's

most obedt Hble Servt —

Robt Dinwiddie.

R: Hon^ble Lords for Trade &c:

Endorsed. Virginia. / Lette. from Robt Dinwiddie Esqr. / Lieut Govr of Virginia, to y^e Board, / dated at Williamsburg / y^e 16th of / Novr 1754, transmitting some / Accounts of the Re- / venue, and / Naval Office Lists, viz^t / Recd [illegible] } 1754. /
Read ____ }
NV. 177. / 7.

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The present State of Virginia

January 1755

The Boundaries of the Dominion of Virginia as they were first established by the Charter of King James the First Anno. 1606 were from Cape Comfort, now called Cape Henry, two hundred Miles North along the Sea Coast, and the same Distance South from the same Cape, and West to the South Sea, together with all Islands in both Seas lying with in one hundred Miles of the main Land, in which Tract is comprehended great Part of that which is now called North Carolina, all the Province of Maryland and Part of Pensylvania.

But the Boundaries of Virginia, as it is now circumscribed, are to the East and South East of the main Atlantick Ocean, on the South a due West Line from the Mouth of Carratuck-Inlet, which lies in the Latitude of 36 Degrees and 30 Minutes, divides Virginia from North Carolina: And on the North a Line from the Sea through that Istmus called the Eastern Shore, to the Bay of Chesapeak opposite to that Point of Potomack River called Watkins's Point, which lies in Latitude 38, and thence the said River Potomack divides this Country from Maryland unto the true Meridian of the first Fountain

of Potomack, which is the utmost Boundary of Mary.
.land, Westward: And then Virginia runs its
ancient Breadth and has no other Limits to
the West, than what its first Royal Charter as.
.signed it; and that is to the South Sea, includ.
.ing the Island of California. but according to
its Breadth, from the West Line which divides
it from North Carolina, on the South, to the first
Fountain of Potomack on the North, it will extend
to the western Side of Maryland, as far as the
Latitude of 40 North; and so Northerly on the
Back of Pensylvania.

The Situation is under the same Parallel
with some of the finest Countries in the World,
and undoubtedly the Country is capable of the
same Productions, as the Fertility of the Soil is
equal to any of them; since with little Labour every
Thing is propogated which the Planter has attempted.

The Air is Temperate, the extreme Heat in
Summer or Cold in Winter is but of short Dura.
.tion, as they are frequently relieved with inter.
.vening cold and warm Breezes.

The Western Boundary is as yet not well
known, nor can it be expected to be fully known
for some Ages. The British Subjects have for some
Years settled within a few Miles of the River Ohio,

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on the other Side of the Allegany Mountains; which Settlement, was approved of by the Indians; and a Grant of the Land was made to his Majesty, the King of Great Britain, by the Six Nations at the Treaty of Lancaster; These Settlements I was willing to fix as our present Boundary to the Westward, as it is Part of the Lands belonging to the Five Nations, which, by the Treaty of Utrich, is expressly allowed to be under the Dominion of the Crown of Great Britain; and as the Lake Champlain, formerly called Lake Iroquois, and the Country Southward of it; as also the Lake Ontario, and Eire, have by all ancient Authors, both French and English been allowed to belong to the Five Nations of Indians, and in course, by the above Treaty, to be under the Protection of the British Crown.

Notwithstanding the above Treaty, the French have, subsequent thereto, built several Forts on the Lands of the Five Nations, and a remarkable strong one at Crown Point, to the Southward of Lake Champlain. The Treaty of Aix la Chapelle, confirming the Treaty of Utritch, has no Weight with the French; but it appears that the Conquest of this whole Continent seems to be the Object of their Attention.

The French, since the above Treaties have

erected many Fortresses on the Lands belonging to the five Nations, who are actually under the Protection of Great Britain; and, contrary to Law and Justice, erect these Forts as Marks of Possession, and they have been constantly increasing their Forces, by importing numbers of People from France, in a private Manner not to be noticed or observed by the Powers in Europe.

They have, for the last seven years, robbed our Subjects trading with the Indians, in our back Coun-try, and sent their Persons Prisoners to Quebeck; all which is a notorious Infraction of the above Treaties. Not satisfied with these clandestine and private Robberies they have now taken off the Mask, and this last Summer declared, in this part of the World their Intentions.

I was ordered by His Majesty to build some Forts on His Lands on the Ohio; in obedience thereto, I ordered out some Soldiers and Tradesmen, to begin a Fort on the Forks of Monongehela; till I was qualified [1325] by our Assembly to send stronger Forces to that Fort, and to build some others. The French with an armed Force from Canada, came down the River Ohio, surprized our People, took Possession of His Majesty's Fort, and robbed and plundered all our poor Settlers that were on that River, some of whom had lived peacibly there upwards of ten Years.

I raised what Men, the small Pittance our

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Assembly granted, in February last, enabled me to do; who, with an Independent Company His Majesty was pleased to order from South Carolina, on their March to the Ohio were attacked by the French and Indians with a much superior Force; many of our Men were killed, and the rest obliged to such a Capitulation, as the Inferiority of their Numbers, and the Situation of their Affairs, compelled them to comply with.

These Transactions in the Time of tranquil Peace between the two Crowns, I conceive is without Precedent, and am convinced there is no conducting an Expedition without Aid from Home; and an Act of the British Parliament to oblige the Colonies to raise Money for their own Protection. —— But to return to the present State of Virginia.

Established Govt of Virginia

The established Constitution of the Government of Virginia is as follows. A chief Governor appointed by his Majesty who always resides in Great Britain. A Lieutenant Governor appointed also by His Majesty who presides over the Affairs of the Government. A Council, consisting of twelve Gentlemen, appointed by Mandamus's from His Majesty. The Dominion has now fifty Counties, who elect two Members for each County, one for the Colledge of William and Mary; one for the City of Williamsburg; one for James Town; and

one for the Borough of Norfolk, in all One hundred and four Members, who are called at Meeting The House of Burgesses. — The Lieutenant Governor, Council, and House of Burgesses; are the General Assembly of this Colony; and are impowered to enact Acts for the good Government of the Country; These Acts are duly transmitted to Great Britain, soon after each Session, for His Majesty's Assent and Approbation; when they receive His Majesty's Sanction they become Laws.

There are in each County Courts held Monthly by Persons Commissioned by the Governor; who have not only the Power of Justices of the Peace; but have Cognizance of all Suits, of what Value soever, arising within their respective Jurisdictions, both at Common Law and in Chancery; except only such Criminal Offences as are [p 26] punishable with the Loss of Life or Member.

And for the City of Williamsburg there is a Court of Husting held monthly before the Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen, for all Suits at Common Law arising within the Town, having equal Jurisdiction in all Suits at Common Law, with the County Courts. There is the like Court in the Borough of Norfolk; these are the inferior Courts in this Government; and from their Judgement an Appeal lies to the General Court; the Appellant giving Security to prosecute the same with effect.

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The General Court consists of the Governor and Members of the Council, any five whereof make a Quorum; this Court is held in April and October; and has Jurisdiction of all Causes real, Personal and Mixt, at Common Law brought hither, originally exceeding the Value of ten Pounds Sterling, or by Appeal, or Supersedias (which is in the Nature of a Writ of Error) from the inferior Courts; all criminal Offences are here tryable; and it is also a Court of Chancery for Matters of great Value. But by a late Act of Assembly, no Appeal or Supersedias lies from the Judgement or Decree of any inferior Court, unless the Debt, or Damage, or Thing in Demand (ex-clusive of the Costs) exceeds the Value of Five Pounds, Excepting only where the Title or Bounds of Lands are in Question; and from the General Court, an appeal lies to the King and Council, in any Cause of Three hundred Pounds Sterling or upwards.

Secondly — For the Prevention of long Imprison-ment for Matters Criminal, there are two Courts of Oyer and Terminer held Yearly, the one the second Tues-day in June; the other the second Tuesday in December; wherein all Criminals that happen to be committed after the respective General Courts, are tried; the Judges here are only such as are Members of the Council, and sit by the Governor's Commission, pursuant

to His Majesty's Instructions in that behalf.

Thirdly —— For the Punishment of Slaves, committing Capital Crimes, a Commission of Oyer and Terminer is issued by the Governor, directed to the Justices of the Peace in the County where the Offence is committed to try the Offenders, on Proof of the Fact by Witnesses without any Jury, and on Conviction the Commissioners award Execution, and set a Value on the Slave, which Valuation is afterwards paid the Owner by the General Assembly; as an Encouragement to the People to discover the Villaines of their Slaves.

Fourthly For Breaches of the acts of Trade, and for determining Controversies concerning Mariners Wages, and all Maritime Affairs; there is a Court of Admiralty held before a Judge, Constituted by Commission under the Seal of the High Court of Admiralty of Great Britain, And to this Court belongs an Advocate, Register, and Marshal, appointed by the Governor, who is also by Commission Vice Admiral of all the Sea Coasts, Rivers and Creeks within this Government; This Court is not held at any certain Time, but is called and held as Business or Occasion may require; and from this Court an Appeal lies to the King and Council.

The Governor should have a Commission

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for trying of Pyrates, none such is to be found here, though I am informed my Predecessor had such a Commission.

There is a Court of the Commissary of the Bishop of London, which only relates to the Punishment of the Immoralities of the Clergy, and proceeds by Monition, Suspension, or Deprivation, as the Nature of the Offence deserves; and from thence there lies an Appeal to the Deligates appointed by His Majesty's Commission in England.

Having treated of the Courts of Justice of this Government, it may not be improper to mention here how His Majesty's Mercy is dispenced to Offen-ders who are proper Objects thereof; And herein such is the Grace and Favour of the Crown, that the Governor is invested with a Power to pardon all Crimes and Offences, Treason and willful Murder only excepted; and he has a Power of Reprieving, until on a fair representation of the Circumstances of the Fact, the King is pleased to signifie His Commands for pardon-ing or executing the Sentence.

The Governor has also a Power to remit all Fines and Forfeitures accruing to the Crown under the Value of Ten Pounds Sterling, and if above he may sus-pend the levying such Fines and Forfeitures untill His Majesty's Pleasure is known; but this Indulgence does not

reach to the Inhabitants of the Northern Neck, the Lines &c.a being granted to Lord Fairfax, the Proprietor thereof.

Thus much for the Civil Constitution of this Dominion, so far as relates to the making and executing the Laws, and the Administration of Justice.

For Matters of State, there is a Council, [p.218] appointed | by the King, to be assisting to the Governor in all Things relating to the King's Ser.vice, such as the disposing of his Lands, the manag.ing his Revenue, the appointing of Justices of the Peace, Sheriffs, and Coroners, and other Officers of Trust, who receive their Commissions from the Governor.

For the better ordering the Tributary In.dians, and making War or Peace with foreign Indian Nations, and various other Matters which concern the Publick Peace of the Government, and which do not fall under the Direction of possitive Laws.

Trade of the Colony. The Trade of this Colony is principally conducted by Ships from Great Britain; I supp.:pose not less than One hundred and twenty Sail are loaded here Annually, with the Pro.:duce of this Dominion: The Trade exclusive of the above, consists of about Sixty Sail of Ships. Snows, Brigantines, Schooners, and Sloops, which

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are navigated by Five hundred Sailors, besides the small Shallops, which are constantly employ'd in transporting the Commodities from one River to another, and in loading the Ships bound for Great Britain. The Trade in general has greatly increased, for these last ten years, and chiefly supported, as to the Shipping, with Cordage, Sail. Cloth &c. from Home.

Merchandize imported from Great Britain.

The People in this Dominion are supplied from Great Britain with all Sorts of Woollen Manufactories, such as Broad Cloth, Kersey, Duffils, Cottons, Crapes, Rugs, Blankets, Norwich and other Stuffs, Hats, Stockings, Shoes; and all sorts of Household Furniture and wearing Apparel; with Calicoes, Persians, and other East India Goods, Sail Duck, Cordage, with all manner of Iron Ware; as Locks, Hinges, Nails, Carpenters, Joiners, and Smith's Tools, Axes, Hoes, Anchors, Fire Arms — With Wines, Spices, Fruits, Loaf Sugar and Strong Beer; with other Family Neces=saries, amounting to by Computation Three hundred thousand Pounds Sterling.

The Trade from this is chiefly to Great Briton, and the British Colonies; some Times Wheat, Staves, and Indian Corn to Lisbon, and the Islands of Madeira; from Lisbon the

Remittances are made to Great Britain, from Madeira they have Wine for their Goods.—

Comodities Annually exported.

The Produce of this Colony and its Amount may be computed as follows—

50,000 Hhds of Tobacco at 4£ p Hhd Net		200,000.—.—
10,000 Bls Pitch & Tar	@ 8/.	4,000.—.—
4,000 Tons Pig Iron	@ 5£	20,000.—.—
Deer Skins & Furs		20,000.—.—
40,000 Bush[s] Wheat	@ 2/6	5,000.—.—
250,000 Bush[s] Indian Corn	@ 12[d]	12,500.—.—
10,000 Bls Bees Wax	@ 12[d]	500.—.—
30,000 Bls Beef & Pork	@ 30/.	60,000.—.—
Pipe Heading, Bl Staves & Shingles		10,000.—.—
Snake Root Jenzang &c[a]		2,000.—.—
	£	334,000.—.—

This Colony has no Trade with any foreign Plantations, except to some of the Dutch Islands of S[t] Eustatia, and Curacao, from thence they some Times smuggle in some French Sugars and Rum; to prevent this the Collectors, and Naval Officers are directed to be very careful in inspecting their Clearances, and searching their Vessells; but the Country is so extensive, with many Creeks and Bays, that they run their Goods before they come to enter at the Custom House; but I cannot learn that much collusive Trade is carried on from this Dominion.

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Mines

There are large Quantities of Iron Ore in many Places, and some Furnaces for manu-factoring it fit to send to Great Briton — Some Appearances of Copper, but for want of proper Persons acquainted with Minerals the People do not prosecute their Searches with Spirit. There are also Tin, Lead, and Antimony, in several Places near the Great Mountains, and I doubt not other rich Minerals; but for want of Persons of Knowledge, and Monied Men, these Dis-coveries must lie dormant for some Time.

Number of Inhabitants

The Number of Inhabitants, from the most exact Account I can have of Whites and Blacks are, Two hundred and thirty Thousand, and they Annually increase in Numbers. There are fifty

Militia

Counties, each has a County Lieutenant, Colonel, Lieutenant Colonel, and Major, and according to the largeness of the County, their Militia is divided into Companies, each Company having a Captain, Lieutenant, and Ensign; and our Militia may now amount to Twenty eight Thousand Men, from [P 330] twenty one to sixty years of Age. In order to bring the Militia into good Dicipline and a proper Use of their Arms; I divided this Dominion into four Districts, and appointed experienced Per-sons to be Adjutants, to teach the Officers and then

the private Men their Exercise, which I hope will in Time bring the Militia into good Order and Discipline; for our whole Dependence (under God) must be on them, for we have no Forts in this Dominion, there was one erected at the Mouth of James River, but as it was built on a Sandy Foundation, the Sea & Weather destroyd it, that the Guns lie dismounted and of no Use. There are two small Batteries on York River, but are only of Service to protect the Merchant Ships in that River, and of no Defence against an Enemy that have Force sufficient to attack them by Land; or a Ship of Force to run up the River may demolish them both; And I wish the Colony was in good Circumstances to build Forts of some better Materials than Wood, but the small Funds which the Assembly here is able to raise, are not equal

Forts &c. in this Dominion.

to so considerable an Undertaking; and in War, without some of His Majestys Ships of War, this Dominion would be subject to the Insults of small Privateers, this is highly worthy of serious Consideration.

The tributary Indians, subject to the Rules of this Government, are much reduced, and very inconsiderable, there are at present only the Pamunkey and Nottaway's their Numbers to.

Tributary Indians & others

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gether are not above Sixty fighting Men; they are seated among the Inhabitants, and live in Peace and Amity with them. The other Nations of Indians that are near us, and pro-fess Friendship, and in League with the English are, the Six Nations, to the Northward; the Cala-was, Cherokees, Creeks, and Chickesaws to the South-ward; The different Nations on the River Ohio; the Picts, Twightwees, and Shawnesse to the West-ward, if they be not seduced now by the French who are between us and them. This Colony has always been Happy and in firm Peace with the Indians, till lately, the French have by Threats and fair Promises, seduced some of the Indians from the British Interest, and with great Injustice invaded His Majesty's Lands, plun-dered and robbed many of his Subjects, and carried many of them to Quebeck.

Proceedings of the French.

The French do not make regular Settlements, but build Fortresses as Marks of [p. 33] Possession, without / Justice or any Shadow of Right to the Lands where they build their Forts, and make Incursions among our frontier Settlements (who lie scattered for the Benefit of the best Lands) and rob them of their Cattle Corn &c. and often murder them. This is the miserable

Situation of this Colony at present, which, without aid from Great Britain, by the Infatuation and Neglect of the Assemblies on this Continent, must remain a Prey to the Enemys Depredations.

Revenues within this Dominion

1st Two Shillings Sterling on every Hogshead of Tobacco exported, abating an allowance of ten p^{cent} to Masters of Vessells for paying it in Bills of Exchange.

2d Fifteen Pence p^{r} Ton on all Ships and Vessells trading here, commonly called Port Duties.

3d Six Pence p^{r} Head on every Passenger Imported.

4th Fines and Forfeitures, for Breaches of the Penal Laws, Contempts of Courts of Justice, Breaches of the Peace. Conviction of Felons, or Trespasses.

5th Rights for taking up Lands, which is five Shillings for every fifty Acres.

How the Revenue is applied.

The three first Branches of the Revenue are appropriated, by the Act of Assembly, for rais-ing the same, as are also the Forfeitures for Breaches of the Penal Laws, for and toward the support of Government and its contingent Charges, and for maintaining Forts and Fortifications.

The casual Fines and Forfeitures in the fourth Branch, were first appropriated to the Support of Government by Warrant from King Charles the Second, and have continued so ever since.

The last Branch of Rights for Land was

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established by Order of the Governor and Council, in the year 1699, to supply the Defect of Importation Rights, on which only People were then entitled to take up Lands, and since that Time it has made a considerable Addition to the Revenue; All these Revenues together amount to Communibus Annis to about Six thousand five hundred Pounds

Expences of Government

The established Expences of Government, including Governor and Council and other Officers Salaries, amount to yearly, as by particular Account below to Four Thousand, three hundred and forty five Pounds The extraordinary expences Incidents &c. are not easy to be computed, because they rise and fall as the Exigencies of Government require; and are at present very high, [p 13.] by Messengers, / Expresses, Repairs of the Governor's House, and other Incidents, as also Alarms of Invasions from Indians, or other great Expences in Presents to Indians, repairing Fortifications, and many other Affairs that make me uncapable to fix any Annual Sum on these different Duties and Services, which now amount to a considerable Sum. The Establishment now paid out of the standing Revenue is as follows.

[Sundrys]

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Sundrys Annually paid out of the stand$ Revenue.

The Governor's Salary . . . . . $p Annm	2000 . — . —
Gentlemen of the Council . $p Warrant	1200 . — . —
Judges & Officers of the Oyer & Terminer Courts	200 . — . —
auditor Genl of Plantations $p Warrant	100 . — . —
Sollicitor of Virginia Affairs	200 . — . —
King's Attorney General	70 . — . —
Clerk of the Council	100 . — . —
Four Adjutants each 100	400 . — . —
The Armourer	12 . — . —
Gunners of Forts	47 . — . —
An Allowance for Ministers to preach before the General Court	16 . — . —
	£4345 . — . —

A further Allowance of Forty Shillings for each Ser. mon preached before the General Assembly.

The Receiver General holds his Place by Patent from His Majesty, & is allowed 5 $p Ct. on all the Money he receives.

The Deputy Auditor acts by Commission, from the Auditor General of the Plantations, and has in lieu of Salary 5 $p Ct. on all the Revenue he audits.

The Bishop of London's Commissary has an annual Salary out of His Majesty's Quit Rents of One hundred Pounds $p Annm.

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The King's Attorney General has also an additional Salary from the said Fund of £70 p Ann.

These are the only Establishments Charged on the standing Revenues ___

The foregoing is a true State of the Dominion of Virginia in the different Branches of its Constitution.

[Humbly Submitted to your Lordships by

Your most Obedient hu.ble Serv.t

Robt Dinwiddie.]

[Inclosure 4 to Board]

Endorsed. Virginia. / The present State / of Virginia, in January / 1755. / Rec.d with Lieut Gov.r Dinwiddies / Lett.r dated y.e 10.th Feb.y 1755. / Rec.d March y.e 26.th / Read April 2.d } 1755. / W. 185.

[P. 334.]

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Virginia Williamsburg March 17th 1755. [p 351]

Right Honble

Inclosed You have Copy of my last by His Majesty's Ship Gibraltar to which I pray it be referred. — Since that General Braddock arriv.ed here the latter end of Febr.y and last Week all the Transports excepting one arrived at Hampton in James River; the Forces on board are all in good Health and not one Person sick, which I observe as an agreeable Presage to our Success in driving the French from the Ohio; the General ordered the Transports immediately to Alexandria, and To-morrow I set out with him for that Place; He thinks proper of having an Interview with Governor Shirley, I accordingly sent an Express to him the Beginning of this Month, he is to meet us at Annapolis in Maryland, where I presume the Plan of Operations will be established, and on my Return to this Place I shall write Your Lordships.

If the Northern Colonies had been as earnest and ready to grant Supplies as this Dominion, I am convinced the Expedition would have been conducted with great Spirit. But Pensylvania, the most populous, & I think the richest Province on this Continent have granted no Aid of either Men, Money, or Provisions, till

lately, by my repeated Letters, they have at last ordered some Flour, the other Colonies have also been very backward, that I am greatly in want of Money: I have therefore ordered our Assembly to meet the first of May, to endeavour to get them to vote a further Supply, but I fear the Remissness of the other Colonies will be a very great Bar to me in prevailing with our Legislature to grant further Aid.

I have been very much engaged in providing Provisions and have a proper Quantity ready, that I have great Hopes this Summer's Campaign, will fully answer the end of General Braddock's coming here.

The want of Carriages and Horses appears to be the greatest Obstacle, as a great Number will be necessary; I have secured pretty many and hope by Diligence to provide more; and every Thing in my Power shall be done with Chearfulness and Assiduity.

I have laid an Embargo on Provisions, as a Precedent for the other Colonies, to prevent the French being supplied therewith, though I verily believe there is [p 352] none carried from / this Colony; the General has wrote to the different Colonies to lay an Embargo likewise on Provisions.

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I have the Honour to assure You, that I am
with humble Respects
Your Lordships most obedient and
faithful humble Servant
Robt Dinwiddie

Last Night the other Transport
arrived at Hampton —

Lords for Trade &c. &c.

[N 35/43]
Endorsed. Virginia. / Letter from Robt. Dinwiddie / Esqr.
Lieut. Governor & Comander in / Chief of Virginia to the
Board / dated Williamsburg ye. 17th March / 1755, [acquainting
the Board / with the Arrival of the / Remainder of the
Transports / & with the Measures he has / taken to
forward the / Expedition agt. the french]
Recd June ye. 3d. } 1755. / W. 190.
Read Do. 11 }

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Virginia, Williamsburg, June 6th 1755. [P&Y]

Right Honble

Inclosed I send your Lordships the List of Ships entered inwards & outwards for the last half Year.

I also send you Account of the two Shilling ℔ Hhd Revenue on Tobacco ending the 25th April, Ballance in the Receiver Generals Hands £2767.15.6 I have served the Rect General with my Warrant payable to the Right Honble William Pitt Esqr Pay Master General to the Army for 2000£ to be paid by Mr John Hanbury; this is agreeable to His Majestys Commands to me, the Ballance of 767.15.6 remains in his Hands to answer any small Emergencies of Government that may occur, which Step I hope will meet with Approbation as I have no other Fund to call on upon any sudden Occasion.

The first Division of General Braddocks Army began their March over the Allegany Mountains the 28th Ult & I hope on this his whole Forces are on their March, I have not the least doubt of their Success in retaking the French Fort on the Ohio, & sincerely wish Success may attend all their Operations. The General was retarded in his March for the want of Horses, Waggons &c & Forage for his Horses which are in Number upwards of 1500, this Country being unacquainted with War made the necessary Supplies more difficult, but I think he has surmounted all these Inconveniencies. The Train of Artillery wanted such

numbers of Waggons & Horses that they could not readily be supplied with them in this new Country & Indeed I am surprized at the number they have collected together. I have laid Horses, at proper Stages for quick Intelligence, I expect the next Letters from the General will be from the Ohio, when I shall give You constant Information.

Our House of Burgesses met the 1st Ult.o they then intended a further Supply of 6000 £ they are adjourned for a short Time on their meeting again I hope to prevail with them to grant 10,000, but the Backwardness of our neighbouring proprietary Governments of Maryland & Pensylvania, make my Applications to our Assembly an up-hill Work, however I shall do all in my Power to raise them to a proper sense of their Duty & Danger. As I cannot write You anything further that's material I beg Leave to assure You I am with great Deference & due Respects ——

Right Honble

Your Lordships

most faithful & obedient / humble Servt.

Robt. Dinwiddie.

Lords for Trade &c.a

[n 374] Endorsed. Virginia. / Letter from Robt. Dinwiddie. / Esqr. Lieut Governor of Virginia / to the Board, dated at Williamsburg 6th of June 1755, inclosing / the List of Ships Entr'd Inwards &c / Outwards for the last Half Year; / Also, an Account of the two Shillgs / p Hogs. head Revenue on Tobacco / ending the 25th of April 1755. / Read — 17 } Recd July 1st } 1755.

W. 1754.

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[R 367]

Virginia Williamsburg Septr 6th 1755

Right Honble

I send your Lordships twenty five Acts of Assembly that were passed the Sessions ending in June last, as also the Journals of the Council and that of the House of Burgesses.

Money is so extremely scarce in this Dominion, that, in order to protect our Frontiers, an Act is pass'd for a Lottery to raise Six thousand Pounds, and to allow the Treasurers Notes to pass as Money for the Amount of 20,000£ which are to be paid off next June, & the Subjects have the several Taxes secured to them for the said Payment, which on our present Exigencies I hope this will meet with your Approbation.

The unexpected and fatal Defeat of His Majestys Forces on the Banks of the Monongahela, under the Command of General Braddock, the Death of that brave General, & many other brave Officers and Men, raised a very great Consternation in all the People of this Dominion; after this great Loss, when all our Artillery also, fell into the Hands of the Enemy, the Command of the Troops devolved on Colonel Dunbar, he march'd them into Fort Cumberland; and the Second of August he march'd the Remains of the Army for Philadelphia for Winter Quarters; This Step of Colo Dunbars increased the Uneasiness

of our People, having left at Fort Cumberland some Sick & Wounded, and about 200 Provincial Troops to defend our Frontiers; the Consequence thereof was a general Dissatisfaction amongst the Provincial Troops, that they deserted daily in great Numbers (suggesting they were left by the Regulars as a Prey for the Enemy) that now there are not one Hundred Effective Men at the Fort to protect that Place, & the Frontiers.

Col: Dunbar march'd off with him the three Independent Companies His Majesty was gra-
-ciously pleased to send here under my Command for the Protection of this his Dominion, and to assist us to drive the Enemy from His Majesty's Lands on the Ohio, by what Power Mr Dunbar ordered these Companies to march with him I know not, but it appears he intended to leave us in as much Distress as was in his Power; he also carried with him four Six Pounders and two Mortars, the last was greatly necessary for the Defence and Protection of the Fort.

The Road to the Ohio being now opened, and the French hearing the Regulars had march-
-ed two hundred Miles from the Fort, what may they not do if they should come over the Alle-
-gany Mountains and invade our back Country.

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On this Conduct of Col: Dunbars, I immediately raised six Companies of Rangers who I sent to the Frontiers to protect [P 358]
our Settlements to the / Westward but they are trifling to oppose an Enemy that had defeated twelve hun-dred Regulars and pick'd Men.

I immediately called the Assembly, & by ar-guments on our present distressed forlorn Condition, they voted 40,000 £ which qualified me to augment our Forces to 1000 Men which I have granted Commissions to raise sixteen Companies, and given the Command to Col: George Washington, and they are now recruit-ing their Men. The Proceedings of this Assembly are not yet transcrib'd but shall soon transmit them to You.

Your Lordships will please consider our Si-tuation, The Regular Forces march'd into Winter Quart-ers the middle of Summer our neighbouring Colonies of Maryland & Pensylvania as yet have not granted us any Aid that all I possibly can do, is to order the Forces raised here to be on the Defensive, to prevent the Incursions of the Enemy and protect our Front-iers, till I have Orders from Home.

I am greatly fatigued in raising the Men, and endeavouring all in my Power to keep up the Spirits of our People with proper Resentment against the Enemy, they did send in some flying Parties of French

and Indians who have robbed and murdered above forty Families; but I am in hopes the Rangers & the Regiment now raising, will in a great Measure prevent these barbarities for the future.

I shall under the present Situation, do every Thing in my Power for His Majesty's Service and the Protection of this His Dominion. I have the Honor of subscribing myself

Right Hon.ble

Your Lordships

most obedient and

faithful humble Servant

Robt. Dinwiddie

Lords for Trade &c.

[P38r°]

Endorsed. Virginia. / Letter from Robt. Dinwiddie, Esqr. Lieut. Governor of Virginia / to the Board, dated Williamsburg / ye 6th of Septr 1755, giving an / Account of the present State / of affairs in that Colony, and / transmitting several Acts passed / in June last, as also Journals of the / Council, & also that of the / House of Burgesses. /

Recd Octobr ye 29th } 1755. / N. 198.
Read ——— do. }

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To The Right Honoble The Lords [P. 389]
Comissioners for Trade and Plantations

My Lords

In Pursuance of your Lordships Commands Signi-
-fied to me by Mr Pownall's Letter wherein you are pleased
to Desire my Opinion in Point of Law upon the following
Acts passed in Virginia, in November 1754 I have
Perused and Considered the same (viz.)

1. "An Act for Raising the Sum of Twenty Thous-
"and Pounds for the Protection of his Majesty's Subjects
"against the Insults and Encroachments of the French.

2. "An Act for Raising Levys and Recruits to serve
in the present Expedition against the French on the Ohio.

3. "An Act for Paying the Burgesses Wages in Money
for the present Sessions of Assembly.

4. "An Act for adding Part of the Counties of Albe-
"marle and Lunenburg to the County of Bedford.

5. "An Act for Docking the Intail of certain Lands
"in the County of Nancemond and vesting the same
"in Thompson Swann in Fee Simple and for Settling
"other Lands and Slaves of greater Value to the same Uses.

Upon Perusal and Consideration of these Acts,
I have no Objection thereto in Point of Law, and am
My Lords, Your Lordships
Most Obedient
Humble Servant
Mat Lamb

Lincolns Inne.
12th Novemb 1754.

[P 47] Endorsed. Virginia. / Sir Mathew Lamb's Report / upon
Five Acts passed in / Virginia in November / 1754. /
Dated Novr. ye. 12th. 1755. / No Objection. / Recd. Novr. ye 18th. 1755
Read 17. 26 / W. 109.

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Virginia Williamsburg, Nov.r 15th: 1755. [N 293]

Right Hon.ble

My last to your Lordships was the 6th. of Sept.r Since that I received Yours of the 18th. of April, and agreeable to your Commands I immediately sent to the Secretary's Office to acquain_ them I was ready to sign all Patents for Lands that were prior to the 22d. of April 1752 without any Fee, the Week following I signed 450. As I think the Lands taken up and possess'd by the Subjects heretofore, were in a very loose and irregu:lar Manner without being properly brought on the Rent Roll for paying His Majesty's Dutt Rents, I am therefore preparing a proper Form of Directions for Surveying, taking out Patents, and carrying them immediately to the Auditor's Office to be put on the Rent Roll, Copy thereof, when finished, I shall transmit to You for Approbation. This comes by the way of Bristol, but am not furnished with the Acts of Assembly passed in the two last Sessions, or with the List of Shipping, but they shall be duly transmitted by the first Ship for London.

Our Assembly met the 29th. of last Month, but did very little Business, not above one half of them giving their Attendence, they endeavour'd to pass an Act for issuing 200,000£ Paper Money, to be current for eight Years without proper Security, and

indeed I think it's contrary to my Instructions; what I for-
merly gave my Assent to viz: 20,000£ and 40,000£ was by and
with the Advice of the Council and on the present Emer-
gency of our Affairs. the first Sum to be paid next
June, and the 40,000 in four Years; But this last At-
tempt of coining 200000 £ I think would have been very
prejudicial to the Credit and Happiness of the Country.
The House of Burgesses began again to be troublesom_
and factious, really I think without the least Shadow
of Reason; I therefore thought it for the Service of His
Majesty, and the good of this Dominion to dissolve them,
and take my Chance of new Members, who I hope will
meet when called on in a Body with more good
Temper and Inclination for the Public Good than I
found the last.

Ever since the Regulars left our Frontiers and
marched for the Northward, we have been weekly
alarmed with the most inhuman Murders. Robberies,
and Barbarities of the French, and their their Indians,
on our frontier Settlements to the Westward; I have
done all in my Power to protect the Frontiers of
this Dominion, by sending Rangers, new Levies, & a
Number of our Militia, in all upwards of 1,000 Men.
This Week I have an Express from the Governor of
Pensylvania, informing me, that 1500 of those Bandditti
are come into that Province, that they are on the

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River Susquehanna, where they propose building a Fort to stop the Communication from those Parts to the Ohio; I hope this will awaken the People of that Province from their lethargic Supineness, and at last, with Spirit, assist the Expedition with proper Supplies, for the Preservation of these Colonies, and the Private Estates of every Individual.

[P. 294]

/The Forces I have raised must remain on the Defensive all I receive His Majesty's Commands, and without Regulars from Britain and some good General and Field Officers, I dread the Con-sequence. I am persuaded neither the Regulars or Provincials are acquainted with the Indian Method of fighting; I therefore am sending Commissioners to the Southern Indians, to endeavour to get 500 of their War-riors to join our Forces next Spring.

I here enclose your Lordships the Account of His Majesty's Quit Rents, and that of the two Shilling p Hhd Duty on Tobacco, ending the 25th of October last. I gave my Warrant on the Receiver General of the two Shilling p Hhd last June, under-writ by him to be paid by Mr John Hanbury: find-ing he did not comply therewith. I sent for the Rec' General who seemed surpriz'd at it's not being paid, but assures me it will now be duly paid.

I have an Express from Hampton acquaint-

. ing me that two Sloops are arrived there, & four more expected from Nova Scotia, with upwards of 1000 French Neutrals, which gives much Uneasiness to the People here, as Numbers of that Nation with their Indians are daily robbing and scalping our back Inhabitants; and as these People that are come from Nova Scotia have refused to swear Allegiance to His Majesty, we can have but a very poor Prospect of their being either good Subjects, or useful People; I have sent for the Council, to advise with them what is to be done with them.

I remain with great Deference and due Respects.

Right Honble

Your most obedt & Servant

Robt Dinwiddie.

Lords for Trade &c.

[N. 39]

Endorsed. Virginia. / Letter from Robt Dinwiddie / Esqr. Lieut. Govr of Virginia, / to the Board, dated Williamsburg Novbr 15th 1755 (relating to the present state of affairs in that Colony) / transmitting the two following Accounts / of His Majesty's Revenue in / the Colony of Virginia, viz. / Recd Jany 1 [illegible] } 1756. / W. 209 / Read ___ 28 }

With two Papers

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Virginia Williamsburg Novr 24th 1755. [N.07]

Right Honble

Inclosed I send you my last by way of Bristol to which please be referred.

I was in hopes by this to have transmitted the Acts passed last Session of Assembly, but they are not ready. by next Ship I shall transmit them and the List of Shipping.

The Neutrals from Nova Scotia are received and now landed; they are to be maintained till next Spring, when they shall have Lands assigned them to settle ...

I am now preparing to send Commissioners to the Southern Indians to confirm them to our Interest as I am informed the Frenh. have their Emmissa. ries & Priests very busy endeavouring to draw them from their Friendship to us. and I think this affa. is of absolute use at this Time.

I remain with Defere..ce & due Respect.

Your Lordships

most obedient hble Servant

Robt. Dinwiddie.

Lords for Trade &c.

[Endorsed]

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(Duplicate) Williamsburg Virginia Feb.y 28d. 1756. [Rm27]

Right Hon.ble

I have the Honor of your Lordships Commands signified to me by Your Secretary Mr. Pownal in two Letters of the 16th of July and 19th of September; these two Letters did not come to my Hand till the 12th of Dec.r last, otherways I should have answered them before this, and this is the first Conveyance that has offered.

The defenceless State of the Northern Colonies, and the irregular management of Indian affairs, are the two Points recommended in your Letter of the 16th of July; and I shall esteem myself extreme-ly fortunate should I suggest any Thing to You for the Welfare of the Colonies and the Interest of Great Britain; In discussing these Points I must confine my-self pretty much to the Situation and Circumstances of this Dominion.

As Virginia is supposed to include all the Lands to the Westward of the Allegany Mountains, fr... the Northern Boundary of Carolina, to the Southern Limits of Canada, it will be difficult to ascertain what Forts it may be necessary to erect; but allowing the Lands that are ceded to the Crown of Great Bri-tain by the Treaty of Utrecht; and if we should succeed in driving the French from their unjust En-

encroachments; I am humbly of Opinion the following
[p. 428]
Forts will be absolutely / necessary; as I should gladly recommend the building of Forts at the Extremes of the Lands that I think are indisputably the Right of the Crown of Great Britain.

Fort Frederick or Crown Point	40 Guns	500 Men
Cataraqui	10	300
Oswego	20	300
Niagara	20	200
Strait, or River running from Lake Huron to Lake Erie	10	100
Onbatch River	10	50
Miami, to protect the Twightwee Indians	10	100
Monongahela	10	100
Upper Cherokees	10	100
Chickesaw Country	10	50
Creeks	10	50

The Indians near to the above Places have been in the British Interest, though lately, by the Insinuation and Flatteries of the French, some of them have deserted our Interest; but am convinced they may easily be regained, and many of them will assist in building the Forts; if Your Lordships should think them proper, I would recommend each Fort

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to have two Blacksmiths to mend the Guns of the Indians &c? and a School Master, to teach the Children English, and Morality, and to give them a true no-tion of the Supreme God; And I would further humbly recommend, if the above Forts should be agreed on; that all the unhappy Wretches that may here-after be condemned to Transportation may be sent to these Forts to serve the Time limitted by their [p. 29] Sentence, to do Labor their and at the expiration of their Time they may have granted to each a small Quantity of Land, which in Time may help to settle that Country.

As to the management of Indian Affairs; till lately the People of this Province have had very little Intercourse with them; but since our At-tempts to ascertain His Majesty's Rights, and to settle the Lands on the River Ohio it appears to me that our difference with the Indians, or rather, their want of Faith in us, is chiefly owing to the Trad-ers among them, who are the most abandoned Wretches in the World, and, in respect to Society, as uncivilized as the Indians themselves, and less to be trusted in regard to Truth and Probity, and it may be chiefly imputed to these Traders, that we have been obstructed by the French in settling the Lands on the Ohio; as I am credibly informed they

communicated to the Enemy every Operation that was undertaken.

I therefore think it will be of essential Service, that Commissioners be appointed in each Colony to look into the Indian Trade; and that none shall be allowed to trade without a Licence from the Governor, and Security given by each Trader; and that they may be restrain'd from carrying a greater Quantity of Spirituous Liquor than that agreed on by the Governor and Commissioners; and that Prices may be affixed to each species of Goods they carry to the Indians, to prevent their cheating of them, that the Commissioners make a Report to the Governor every six Months of the state of the Indian Affairs and Trade, the Governors to transmitt the same to your Lordships with their Observations thereon.

[P.120] The Colonies must be sensible of the great Expence / their Mother Country has been at to protect and defend them; The Staple of this Country being Tobacco has sold so low at Home that it hardly produces sufficient to maintain the Planters Families: To raise Funds here as permanent to pay the great Expences that must attend the forementioned Proposals, would be too precarious for the Honor of the Crown to be left to the different Assemblies; therefore if the British Parliament shou'd think fit to interfere; as the Affairs here offered are entirely

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for the protection of their Estates, Lives, and every Thing else dear to Mankind; I shall humbly and with great Submission give my Opinion, what I think most eligible at this precarious Period.

I first propose a Poll Tax of twelve Pence Sterling for two Years, which I conceive may be suffecient to erect the Forts: And for a permanent Tax, I think two Shillings Sterling on each hundred Acres of Land may be sufficient for the annual Expence, this I propose as the most equal as it will be paid by People of the greatest Property, and great Land Holders: In this Colony they pay to His Ma-jesty two Shillings p hundred Acres Quit Rent; two Shill-ings more as proposed above will not be one half Penny p Acre; a very small Moducim if compared to the Land Tax paid in England! But, my Lords, if these Taxes should be approved of by His Majesty and Ministry; I humbly propose both Taxes to be general through all the Colonies, the King's Proprietary, and Charter Governments. I know our People will be in-flamed if they hear of my making this Proposal, as they are averse to all Taxes; but in my Duty and in obedience to your Commands, I cannot but think it is the most eligible, and will remain as long as the Land; but as before, if not done by a British Parliament, I may venture to affirm, no Governors on this Continent will be able to prevail with their

Assemblies to pass Laws for the above purpose.

A Calculation of the above Taxes — the Poll Tax allowing one Million of People in the different Colonies, (but I believe there are many more) a Million will produce 50,000 £ p Annum — The Land Tax I cannot properly compute, but in this Dominion it will pro-duce 6,000 £ p Annum, which I do not think is one Tenth Part of the whole Colonies; but from that Calculation it will yield 60,000 £ p Annum, which I conceive may pay the annual Expences attending the different Forts to be constructed as beforementioned.

I propose a Receiver of these Taxes in each Government, to be appointed by the Governors of the Provinces, the Sheriff of each County to collect it from the People, and they to pay it to the Receiver: And I think a Receiver General should be appointed at Home giving good and sufficient Security, and to be ordered to settle in the most centrical Place; and that the whole Receipts from the different Governments be paid to him, and he to issue the same as wanted for payment of the different Expences &c. — and that he be instructed once a year to transmit his Accounts Home, with proper Receipts and Vouchers; this will be attended with very great Trouble, therefore two Clerks will be necessary to assist him, his Appoint-ment must be fixed at Home.

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/There is an Affair occurs to me that will [p 432]
make some Difficulties in raising the above Taxes,
which is the great Scarcity of Silver and Gold; as Pro-
-visions of all kinds will be wanted, those Colonies
that cannot pay in Money, may they not supply
Provisions in lieu of Cash, and to be charged at
the Current Price they are sold for? but this I submit
to Your superior Judgement — Or if thought proper
that Money should be coined at Home for Pay-
-ment of all the Officers Civil and Military, to be
sent annually to the different Colonies; that the
Money so coined may be with such Inscriptions as
may be thought proper to distinguish it for Ameri-
-can Currency; this the French have practiced for
many Years; the Goverment may save five p.Cent
on the Coinage, and be at no more Charge than
at present in paying the Salaries &c.a at Home, and
the Advantage the Colonies would reap is plain
by having so much Money sent over to them An-
-nually and qualify them to pay the above
Taxes in Cash; and in a few years would put
an End to all Paper Currency so much complained
of by the Merchants at Home, and the Subjects here,
or can I see that there is much Risque in sending the Money,
as any of the Station Ships of War may be ordered to
bring it out, but this is humbly submitted to You —

[Page]

/Your Letter of the 19th Sept. is confined to this Colony ~ in answer thereto, I beg Leave to inform your Lordship's, that there are three Forts in this Dominion, one called Fort George at the Mouth of James River, where I went to view it; it was built on a sandy Bank, no care to drive Piles to make a Foundation, the Sea and Wind beating against it has quite undermined it and dismounted all the Guns, which now lie buried in the Sand; there was mounted on this Fort ten twenty four Pounders, six twelve Pounders, and four nine Pounders, all Honey Comb, and fit for no Service, they were sent in here by Queen Elizabeth and King Charles; they have always been exposed to the Weather that they are not fit for Service. The other two Forts are on York River; one at the Town of York had mounted eleven Guns of eighteen & nine Pounders, and ten small Guns of a Pound and half Shott, but the large Guns are all Honey Comb and not fit for Service — The other Fort at Gloucester, on the same River, had fifteen Guns of eighteen, twelve and six Pounders mounted, but like the others not fit for Service; These three Places are very proper for Forts, as they are at the Entrance of two greatest Rivers of most Consequence in this Colony; the Batteries are in a most ruinous Condition though considerable Sums have been laid out upon them, yet for want of a skilful Engineer to direct the Construction, particu-

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=larly in making a good Foundation, the Tides and Weather have undermined the Walls: I am much of Opinion that an Engineer to be sent out to oversee and direct the building these Forts, and proper Guns to be mounted thereon, is absolutely necessary for the [Page 34] safety of this Dominion; but we have no Money to answer these necessary Services.

The Fund of two Shillings ℔ Hogshead on Tobacco appropriated for the ordinary an extraordinary Contin. =gencies of Government, hath been so effectually exhausted since our Dispute with the French and their Indians, that there will scarcely be sufficient in the Receiver Ge. =nerals Hands in April next to answer the ordinary and unavoidable Expences of the County; and I am convinced the Assembly will not vote any Money for this necessary Service.

Some time after my arrival here an Act passed the Assembly for erecting a Light House on Cape Henry; the Entrance of all Vessells from the Sea to this Colony or to Maryland, at which Place I pro. =posed building a Fort, a twenty four Pound Shott will command the whole Channel; but this Act did not meet with His Majesty's approbation, but I beg leave to recommend it to your Lordships to lay it before His Majesty for his Sanction.

Our Frontiers to the Westward are three

hundred Miles from North to South, and its two hundred Miles from our Westermost Settlements to any part of the Colony that's tolerably peopled; therefore the Militia could not march such Distances in proper time to assist the back Inhabitants against any sudden Incursions of the Enemy; I am therefore of Opinion that Forts should be built along the Ridge of the Allegany Mountains at those Passes thorow which the Country is accessible; these Forts to be garisoned with Soldiers, who may be of great use in assisting the People to repell the Force of the unjust / Invaders, and while the Militia are engaged in any Place of danger the Women and Children may repair to these Forts for security; But in my Opinion I think it will be impossible to defend our People from the Cruelties of the barbarous Enemy so long as the French keep Possession of His Majesty's Lands on the Ohio: and without they are obliged to give up the Lands they have so unjustly usurped; this Country, as well as many Provinces to the Northward, instead of being enlarged will be greatly contracted in their Limits.

But should your Lordships think proper to advise His Majesty to establish another Colony to the Westward of the Allegany Mountains, with such Indulgencies in matters of Religion, and such Privi-

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leges and Encouragements in other matters as may be thought expedient to induce foreign Protestants, and others of His Majesty's Subjects, to come over to settle these Lands; it would make a secure Barrier to the Colonies on this side of the Mountains, and the only Method that has occurr'd to me effectually to settle that Country, which I humbly submit to your superior Judgement.

If it should be thought proper, and determined on with you to rebuild Fort George at the Mouth of James River, twenty five Guns of twenty four Pounders will be necessary fifteen Guns of eighteen Pounders for York Battery; and twelve Guns of eighteen Pounders to Gloster with some Gunners and Matrosses to each; and an Engineer to direct the Construction of the Batteries; and I shall order some of the nighest Militia to do duty at the different Forts to learn to manage the Cannon on occasion.

[P.#36]
/And if thought proper, which I conceive absolutely useful, to build a Fort at Cape Henry, twenty Guns of twenty four Pounders will be right to mount there, with Powder and Shott proportionable, this will be very extensive, but in Obedience to your Commands I would not omitt giving you my Opinion thereon.

His Majesty some time since ordered thirty

Cannon of four Pounders here, ten of them are mount-
-ed at Fort Cumberland, which Fort is constructed in
Maryland joining to this Province, but as it is a Kings
Fort it matters not in which Province, the Place it is
erected on being juged more suitable than any other;
ten more of those Guns by Order of General Braddock,
were sent to be mounted on the Fort at the Ohio,
if he had taken it, they now lie at Rock Creek
the Head of Potomack River, ready on occasion; the
other ten remain at Hampton, the Mouth of James
River; and, if thought proper these Guns may be
for the Forts proposed to be erected on the Passes
over the Allegany Mountains.

The Stores in the Magazine of this Gover-
-ment are as follows — 520 whole Barrels and 180
half Barrels of Gun Powder — seventeen Bags of Shott
about thirty hundred weight — eight small Bags of
Flints — twenty eight Halberts and twelve Drums; no
small Arms, having sent General Braddock 400 and
New york and the Jersey's 1300, and 800 to the Soldiers
now in the Pay of this Colony.

On my arrival at my Goverment, I found
the Militia in very bad order; I therefore appointed
four Adjitants to four different Districts of the Coun-
-try to reach the Officers their Duty, and train the
Private Men to the use of Arms; the Returns of these

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Adjutants do not make the Militia above 36,000 but please to consider Justices of the Peace, Judges, Coroners, Superannuated Men Overseers and Millers, are exempted by Act of Assembly from appearing under Arms at the County Musters; these added together will amount to 6000 ~ the Militia not above one half armed, & their Small Arms different Bores. very inconvenient in time of Action, I have endeavour'd with our Assembly to vote a general Tax to purchase Arms, all of one Bore, for the Militia. to be lodged in Magazines, in each County, and to be delivered out as occasion may call for it, taking the Names of the different People they may be de. livered to; as yet I have not prevailed with them, but shall again attempt it.

As to the number of Inhabitants, Whites & Blacks in this Colony; I enclose You an exact account of Tithables in each County, with my Remarks thereon; You will please observe, from my Calculation there are 43,329 White Tithables, which multiplied by four make 173,316 White Persons in this Colony, and of Negroes, or Black Tithables 60,078 the young Negroes are computed of equal number, so that there are 120,156 Negroes in the Province — Whites and Blacks are together 293,472 which is the whole number of Inhabitants in this Dominion, and I think the Calcu. lation is as near to Truth as possible.

[p. 138]

My Lords, I have answered Your two Letters as fully as in my Power, and it will give me great Pleasure and Satisfaction if it meets with Your approbation.

From the number of our Inhabitants it may be suggested we may easily raise a pretty little Ar. :my, but the Case is otherways, for most of the People are Freeholders in course have Votes for choos. :ing Assembly Men, on which they strenuously insist on their Privileges; add thereto the want of a martial Spirit, which I must say, I never was a. :mong People that have so little regard to their own Safety, or the Protection of their Religious and Ci. :vil Rights – for Example thereof: about four Months ago I commissioned Officers to raise 1000 Men to protect our Frontiers, and that with very suitable Encouragement, and in that time they have not recruited above one half of that number; they are a lazy indolent set of People, and I am heartily weary in presid. :ing over them, for the Danger from the Enemy just at our Door, and all the Arguments I possibly can make use of, will not rouse them from their lethargic Supineness; And if I should raise the Militia, by the Act of Assembly I cannot march them out of the present Boundaries of the Government, by which You may please to observe the Straits I am un.

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-der, and the great Fatigue I have undergone to keep up this necessary and just Expedition with Spirit, which I find is out of my Power from the Obstinacy and Inactivity of the People.

I presume by this Time I have wearied your [illegible] Lordships with this long Letter, but I could not possibly curtail it from the different Matters you order'd me to answer, and I cannot finish without assuring you, that with great Deference and due Respects I remain —

Right Hon.ble

Your Lordships most obedient &
much obliged humble Servant

Robt Dinwiddie

Lords for Trade &c.a

Endorsed. Virginia. / Letter from Robt Dinwiddie / [illegible] Esq.r Lieut Gov.r of Virginia, / to the Board, dated Williams./ -burg y.e 23.d of Feb.y 1756, in / Answer to their Lordships Commands in two Letters from Mr / Pownall, on the 16.th of July & 19.th of Septr last. / Rec.d April 13.th Read —— 16. } 1753 / N. 208.

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, [illegible]

[R 4003]

A List of Tithables in the Dominion of Virginia 1755.

Counties	Whites	Blacks.
Accomack	1506	1135
Amelia	1251	1652
Albemarle	1344	1747
Augusta	2273	40
Brunswick	1299	976
Bedford	357	143
Charles City	537	1058
Caroline	1208	2674
Chesterfield	841	1198
Culpeper	1221	1217
Cumberland	704	1394
Dinwiddie	784	1175
Elizabeth City	316	812
Essex	889	1711
Fairfax	1312	921
Frederick	2173	340
Gloucester	1137	3284
Goochland	569	935
Henrico	529	898
Hanover	1169	2621
Hampshire	558	12
Halifax	629	141
James City	394	1254
Isle of White	810	966
King & Queen	944	2103
King William	712	1834
King George	720	1068
Lancaster	486	1124
Louisa	655	1452
Lunenburg	1209	983
Middlesex	371	1056
Norfolk	1132	1408
Nansemond	989	1264
Northampton	609	902

Counties	Whites	Blacks
New Kent	465	1209
Northumberld.	980	1434
Orange	627	1016
Princess Ann	840	850
Prince George	650	1138
Prince William	1384	1414
Prince Edward	416	440
Richmond	761	1235
[illegible] Surry	587	1006
Stafford	889	1125
Spotsylvania	615	1468
Southampton	973	1036
Sussex	778	1388
Westmoreland	944	1588
Warwick	181	665
York	562	1567
	43329	60,078

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Observations on the Tithables [p. 446]

The White Tithables are only the Males from eighteen Years of age & upwards - Women & those under the age of eighteen both Males & Females are not tithed, & from best Information may be computed at four times the number of Tithables, that is 43,329 multiplied by four makes 173,316 the whole number of Whites in this Dominion

The Negroes or Blacks are Tithable from the Year of sixteen & upwards both Males & Females, & under that age they are not subject to be tithed; therefore I think the number of black Tithables may be doubled, that is to say 60,078 with the young Negroes at the above Calculation will amount to 120,156 the full number of Slaves in this Colony, added to the Whites makes 293,472 the compleat number of Inhabitants. ——

586, 944

60078
43329
103407

[p. 444]

Endorsed. Virginia. / List of Tithables in the / Do. / minion of Virginia, / Whites & Blacks; With / Observations. / Recd April 18th } 1756. / N. 209.
Read — 15 }

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Williamsburg Virginia June 11th 1756. [P.M.7]

Right Honble

Inclosed I transmit you the List of Ships entering inwards and outwards for the last six Months, as also the Account of the five Shillings per Hogshead Revenue, which you will observe is brought to a very trivial Ballance, owing to the short Crop: last year occasioned by a general Drought over the Colony, as also the large & necessary contingent Charges which arises from the Emergencies of the Government in these troublesome Times.

As the French have long endeavoured to withdraw the Catawbas and Cherokees from their Allegiance to the British Nation, and to raise in them a Spirit of enmity against these Colonies, I judged it for His Majestys Service to send Commissioners to those Nations to conclude a Treaty with them, which they accordingly accomplished, and enclosed I trouble you with a Copy thereof; how long they may continue in our Friendship is greatly uncertain, for they are of a roving unfixed Disposition; but to convince them of our Sincerity, I have, at their Request sent sixty Artificers with Tools &c.a to build them a Fort in the Upper Cherokee Country; and as some of their chief Warriors were here, I received and entertained them

[1-72] with great Respect, Clothed them, and sent them away with considerable Presents, therefore wou'd gladly hope they will continue steadfast in their Friendship and Alliance with us.

This Spring we have been greatly harrassed with Numbers of French and Indians invading our Back Settlements, committing many barbarous Murders and destroying by Fire and Sword the poor Peoples Plantations; I ordered half the Militia of ten Comm.-ties to march out to the Assistance and Protection of our Frontiers; on which the Banditti dispersed and marched over the Allegany Mountains to their Fort on the Ohio, whether to reinforce and return to perpetrate more Cruelties is uncertain; but I am endeavouring by a Draught from the Militia to augment our Regiment to fifteen hundred Men, with them we must remain on the Defensive for want of skilful Officers, Engineers, and Artillery, having none here, — Four twelve Pounders that were sent from the Ord.-nance with an Officer, were ordered by General Shirley to New York, though I represented to that Gentleman the great want we are in of those Guns but he sent his peremptory Commands to the Officer, and I could not help complying with that Order.

I have great Reason to fear that the French will march many of their Men and In-

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. drains from the Mississippi to Fort Du Quesne or
the Ohio, if so, no / Doubt they will harrass [p 473]
these Southern Colonies, as we are at present
not properly conected for the Service, the Pro.
. prietory Governments have hitherto behaved
very ill, and appear still to be in a le.
. thargic Supineness

Our Assembly voted 60,000 £ more for His Majesty's Service for Protection of our Frontiers and supporting the Expedition, the Acts are not fairly transcribed but I shall be able very soon to transmit them to your Lordships — And all I can do for His Majesty's Service shall be with alacrity and proper Care.

Mr. Burwell the eldest Councellor here died about a Month ago, and below I give You the Names of Gentlemen I think most proper to succeed to the Council Board on any Vacancy.

I remain with great Deference and due Respect

Right Honble

Your Lordships

most obedient and

faithful hble Servant

Robt. Dinwiddie.

[List]

List of Gentlemen recommended
to succeed to the Council on
Vacancies

Warner Lewis

Philip Ludwell Lee

John Tayloe

Ralph Wormley

William Lightfoot

Daniel Park Custis

Robert Carter

John Page & Edward Hack Mosely

[p 474]

Endorsed. Virginia. / Ltr from Robert / Dinwiddie Esqr Lt. / Govr of Virginia, to / the Board, date 11th / June 1756, inclosing ..... / Recd Augst 2d } 1756. / W. 216. / 1 Paper.
Read Oct 8 }

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The Acco.t of his Majestys Revenue of 2½ phogsheads: arising within this Colony of Virginia from the 25th. of October 1753 to the 25th. of April 1754

The Receiver General doth Charge himself with the Receipt of the said Revenue as follows	
To Ballance of the last Acco.t	£854 14. 10 5
The Acco.t of the Upper District of James River	529. 7 .9
The Acco.t of the Lowe. District of James Rive.	189. 17 .3
The Acco.t of the District of York River	393. 15 .1
The Acco.t of the District of Rappahannock River	416. 6 .7
The Acco.t of the District of South Potomack	385. 14 .4
The Acco.t of the Port of Accomack	-
The Acco.t of Sundry Rights of Land sold	354. 18 .-
The Acco.t of Fines and forfeitures	6. 12 .8
	£10701 - .1.
The Receiver General doth Discharge himself By the payment of the following Sums.	
By a Warrant for half a years Salary to the Governor ...	£1000. - .-
By a Warrant for Ditto to the Gentlemen of the Council ...	600. - .-
By a Warr.t to the Judges & other Officers of a Court of Oyer & Terminer.	100. - .-
By a Warrant to the Right Honble Horatio Walpole Esq.r Auditor of the plantations for half a Years Salary ..	50. - .-
By a Warr.t to Peter Leheup Esq.r sollicitor of the Virginia Affairs for D.o	50. - .-
By a Warr.t to George Wythe Esq.r his Majestys Attorney General for D.o	35. - .-
By a Warrant to Nath.l Walthoe Esq.r Clerk of the Council for D.o ..	50. - .-
By a Warrant to the Adjutants for half a years Salary ..	160. - .-
By a Warrant to Joseph Davenport Armourer for Ditto ..	5. - .-

By a Warrant to the Gunners of the Batteries for Ditto	18.	10	~
By a Warr^t to the Ministers attending one General Court & Assembly	24	~	~
By a Warrant for repairs done to the Governors house	112.	10	6
By a Warrant for Contingent Charges	863.	1	8
By Allowance to the Receiver General of 2 p^{ct} on £1679. 5. ~ for Negotiating the same in Bill of Exchange in London	8.	7	11
By Allowance to the Auditor & 5 p^{ct} on £2216. 9. 8	110.	16	6
By Allowance to the Receiver General on the same Sum . .	110.	16	6
So that the Sum Disburst amounts to . . .	£3299	3	1
And there will remain due to Ballance this Accot	7461.	17	~
	£10761	~	1

Philip Gaynes Rect Genl

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

I have Examined the within Accot. of his Majestys Revenue [N.2.16]
Commencing the 25th of October 1753, and ending the 25th
of April 1754 and have Compared every Article with its
proper Voucher produced by Philip Grymes Esqr. Receiver
General and find the Charge thereof amounting to Ten
thousand seven hundred Sixty one Pounds and one penny
and the Discharge to three thousand two hundred
ninety nine Pounds three shillings and one penny wch.
truly Stated so that there is due to his Majestys Revenue
for Ballance of this Accot. Seven thousand four hundred
sixty one Pounds seventeen shillings Sterling.

John Blair D. Audr.

May 9th 1754.

The within Accot. Compared and Examined by John
Blair Esqr. Deputy Auditor was produced to me in Coun-
cil and Sworn to by Philip Grymes Esqr. Receiver General.

Robt. Dinwiddie.

Endorsed. Virginia. / Account of his Majestys / [N.2.18]
Revenue of 2d. ℔ Hogshead, &c. / arising within the Colony of
Virginia / from ye. 25th of October 1753, to the / 25th of April 1754. /
Recd with Lr. Govr. Dinwiddie's Lett.r / dated ye. 10th of May 1754. /
Recd July ye 2d } 1754. / N. 159. / 7. /
Read ~ Do }

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Acco.t of his Majesty's Revenue of 2d 1/2 Hogshead &c. arising within the
this Colony of Virginia from the 25th of April 1754 to the 25th of October 1754

The Receiver General doth Charge himself
with the Receipt of the said Revenue as follows

To Ballance of the last Acco.t	£1461. 17.-
The Acco.t of the Upper District of James River	1066. [illegible]
The Acco.t of the Lower District of James River	277[illegible]
The Acco.t of the District of York River	132[illegible]
The Acco.t of the District of Rappahannock River	107[illegible]
The Acco.t of the District of South Potomack	[illegible]
The Acco.t of the Port of Accomack	[illegible]
The Acco.t of Sundry Rights of Land sold	[illegible]
The Acco.t of Fines and forfeitures	170. [illegible]
	£2178. 17. 0

The Receiver General doth Discharge
By the payment of the following Sums.

By a Warrant for half a years Salary to the Governor	£1000. - .-
By a Warrant for Ditto to the Gentlemen of the Council	600. - .-
By a Warr.t to the Judges & other Officers of a Court of Oyer & Termina	100. - .-
By a Warrant to the Right Honble Horatio Walpole Esq.r Auditor	
of the Plantations for half a years Salary	50. - .-
By a Warr.t to James Abercrombie Esq.r Solicit.r of the Virginia	
Affairs for half a years Salary	100. - .-
By a Warr.t to George Wythe Esq.r his Majesty's Attorney Gen.l for Do.	35. - .-
By a Warr.t to Nath.l Walthoe Esq.r Clerk of the Council for Do.	50. - .-

By a Warrant to the Adjutants for half a years Salary.....	160.	-	-
By a Warrant to Joseph Davenport Armourer for Ditto.....	6.	-	-
By a Warrant to the Gunners of the Batteries for Ditto.....	18.	10	-
By a Warr.t to the Ministers attending one Genl Court & Assembly....	14.	-	-
By a Warrant for repairs done to the Governors house.....	853.	4	10
By a Warrant for Contingent Charges.....	1558.	6	5
By an Order of the Governor and Council for lending to the Treasurer to forward the Ohio Expedition.....	2000.	-	-
By Allowance to the Receiver General of ½ p.c.t on £2730.8.2 for Negotiating the same in Bills of Exchange in London	13.	13	-
By Allowance to the Auditor at 5 p.c.t on £4717.-.10.....	235.	17	-
By Allowance to the Receiver General on the same sum...	235.	17	-
So that the Sum Disbursd amounts to.....	£7030.	8	3
And there will remain due to Ballance this Acct	5148.	9	7
	£12178.	17	10

Philip Grymes Rec.t Gen.l

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

[C 29 2]

I have Examined the within Accot of his Majestys Revenue
Commencing the 25th of April 1754 & Ending the 25th of Octobr.
1754 and have Compared every Article with its proper Vouch-
-er produced by Philip Grymes Esqr. Receiver General and
find the Charge thereof amounting to twelve thou-
-sand one hundred seventy eight Pounds seventeen
shillings & ten pence, and the Discharge to seven
thousand & thirty pounds eight shillings & three pence Cont.
truly stated So that there is due to his Majestys Revenue
for Ballance of this Accot Five thousand one hundred
forty eight pounds nine shillings & seven pence Sterling.

John Blair D. Audr.

November 6th. 1754.

The within Accot Compared & Examined by John Blair
Esqr. Deputy Auditor was produced to me in Council and
Sworn to by Philip Grymes Esqr Receiver General

Robt Dinwiddie.

[C 29 4]

Endorsed. Virginia. / Account of His Majesty's / Revenue of 2d ℔ Hogshead &c. arising / in Virginia, from the 25th of April to / the 25th of October 1754. / Recd with Lieut Govr Dinwiddies / Letter dated ye 16th of Novbr 1754. /
Recd Janry ye 13th
Read —— 14th } 1755 / W. 178. / 9 Dec / Naval Office Lists for ye year 1754.

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Accot. of his Majestys Revenue of Quitrents &c arising within this Colony of Virginia for the Year 1753.

The Rect. Genl. doth. Charge himself with the Receipt of the said Revenue as follows.

To Ballance of the last Accot.	£ 5900. 7. 8
To the Quitrents of the Northern Neck for the Year 1753..	6. 13. 11
To the Accot. of Compositions for Escheated Lands.....	7. 16. 11

Quitrents for the Year 1753.

Counties Names	Number of acres paid for	Paid in Money	Sheriffs Allowance	Amount
Amelia.....	400000	£ 400.-.-	£ 40.-.-	£ 360.-.-
Augusta.....	90000	£ 90.-.-	£ 9.-.-	81.-.-
Albemarle.....	220000	£ 220.-.-	£ 22.-.-	198.-.-
Accomack.....	283515	£ 233.10.3	£ 23.7.-	210.3.3
Brunswicke...	289984	£ 289.19.-	£ 28.19.11	260.19.9
Caroline.....	140000	£ 140.-.-	£ 14.-.-	126.-.-
Charles City..	80000	£ 80.-.-	£ 8.-.-	72.-.-
Cumberland..	160000	£ 160.-.-	£ 16.-.-	144.-.-
Chesterfield...	252706	£ 252.14.1	£ 25.5.4	227.8.9
Dinwiddie...	150000	£ 150.-.-	£ 15.-.-	135.-.-
Elizabeth City..	32940	£ 32.18.10	£ 3.5.10	29.13.-
Essex.....	142860	£ 142.17.2	£ 14.5.8	128.11.6
Gloucester....	177338	£ 177.6.9	£ 17.14.8	159.12.1
Goochland....	141735	£ 141.14.8	£ 14.3.5	127.11.3
Hanover.....	253159	£ 253.3.2	£ 25.6.3	227.16.11
Henrico.....	116328	£ 116.6.7	£ 11.12.8	104.13.11
Hallifax.....	60000	£ 60.-.-	£ 6.-.-	54.-.-

Counties Names	Number of Acres rated for	Paid in Money	Sheriffs Allowance	Amount
James City	60000	£ 60 - -	£ 6 - -	54 - -
Isle of Wight ...	136624	£ 136 16 6	£ 13 13 7	123 2 11
King William ...	.....	.....	.....	.....
King & Queen ...	184541	£ 184 10 10	£ 18 9 1	166 1 9
Lancaster	314853	£ 314 7 -	£ 31 9 8	283 7 4
Lawrenburgh ...	.....	.....	.....	.....
Middlesex	74946	£ 74 18 11	£ 7 9 10	67 9 1
Nansemond ...	150736	£ 150 14 9	£ 15 1 5	135 13 4
Norfolk	60000	£ 60 - -	£ 6 - -	54 - -
Northampton ..	104511	£ 104 10 2	£ 10 9 -	94 1 2
New Kent	104927	£ 104 14 7	£ 10 9 5	94 5 2
Orange	.....	.....	.....	.....
Prince George ...	.....	.....	.....	.....
Princess Ann .	80000	£ 80 - -	£ 8 - -	72 - -
Pensylvania .	235011	£ 235 - 2	£ 23 10 -	211 10 2
Surry	80000	£ 80 - -	£ 8 - -	72 - -
Southampton ..	180000	£ 180 - -	£ 18 - -	162 - -
Warwick	39157	£ 39 3 1	£ 3 18 3	35 4 10
York	50000	£ 50 - -	£ 5 - -	45 - -
				£ 4316. 6 2
				£ 0237. 4 1

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Brought Over . . . . . £ 10237 11 1

Arrears of Quitrents paid in the Year 1752.

Counties Names	Acres paid for	Paid in Money	Sheriffs allowances	Amount
Amelia 1748	155104	£ 156 2 1	£ 15 10 2	£ 139 11 11
Augusta	200000	£ 200 - -	£ 20 - -	180 - -
Ditto 1751	79567	£ 79 11 4	£ 7 19 1	71 12 3
Brunswick	22678	£ 22 13 7	£ 2 5 4	20 8 3
Cumberland	75251	£ 75 5 -	£ 7 10 6	67 14 6
Chesterfield	576	£ 0 11 6	£ 0 1 1	. . . 10 5
Dinwiddie	166353	£ 166 7 1	£ 16 12 8	149 14 5
Elizabeth City . . .	1075	£ 1 1 6	£ 0 2 1	. . . 19 5
Essex	350	£ 0 7 -	£ 0 0 8	. . . 6 4
Goochland	7746	£ 7 14 11	£ 0 15 5	6 19 6
Ditto	28166	£ 28 3 4	£ 2 16 4	25 7 -
Hanover	4448	£ 4 9 -	£ 0 8 10	4 - 2
Henrico	704	£ 0 14 1	£ 0 1 6	12 8
Hallifax	115266	£ 115 7 4	£ 11 10 9	103 16 7
James City	7837	£ 7 16 9	£ 0 15 8	7 1 1
Louisa	1738	£ 1 14 9	£ 0 3 5	1 11 4
Lunenburgh . 1751	200000	£ 200 - -	£ 20 - -	180 - -
Ditto 1750	60943	£ 60 18 10	£ 6 1 11	54 16 11
Nansemond . . .	12371	£ 12 7 5	£ 1 4 9	11 2 8
New Kent	937	£ 0 18 9	£ 0 1 10	16 11
Ditto	4619	£ 4 12 6	£ 0 9 3	4 3 2
Orange 1751	80000	£ 80 - -	£ 8 - -	72 - -

Counties Names	Acres paid for	Paid in Money	Sheriffs allowances	Amount
[Orange] .. 1747	197698	£ 197 14 -	£ 19 15 4	177 18 8
Prince George ...	44859	£ 44 17 2	£ 4 9 8	40 7 6
Princess Ann ...	23382	£ 23 7 8	£ 2 6 9	21 - 11
Ditto ... 1751	3039	£ 3 - 10	£ 0 6 1	2 14 9
Spotsylvania ...	21983	£ 21 19 8	£ 2 3 11	19 15 9
Warwick	960	£ 0 19 2	£ 0 1 11	17 3
Yorke 1751	35000	£ 35 - -	£ 3 10 -	31 10 -
Ditto ... 1750	20383	£ 20 7 8	£ 2 0 9	18 6 11
				1415 .. 17. 3.
				£ 1653 . 1. 4.

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Receiver General doth Discharge himself

By paid to the Right Honourable Horatio Walpole Esq.r on his Majestys Warrant one years Allowance ending the 25th of October 1754	£	150	- -
By paid to Mr. Commissary Dawson on his Majestys Warrant one years Salary ending the 25th of October 1754		100	- -
By two Warrants to the Attorney General for one Years Salary ending the 25th of October 1754		70	- -
By his Majestys Warrant dated at Kensington the 20th day of May 1754 for paying to James West Esq.r or to his Assigns		5300	- -
By Allowance to the Receiver General of 6 2/3 p.C.t on £3 17. 10. 7 for arrears received in this Acco.t settled for before the present regulation		21	3 4
By Allowance of ½ p.C.t on £5172.-.4. for Negotiating the Bills of Exchange in London		25	17 2
By Allowance to the auditor at 5 p.C.t on £5746.13.8		287	6 8
By Allowance to the Receiver General on the same sum		287	6 8
So that the sum Disburst amounts to	£	6241	13 10
And there will remain due to Ballance this Acco.t	£	5411	7 6
	£	11653	1 4

Philip Gwynne Rec.r Gen.l

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

[p. 291] I have Examined the within Acco.t of his Majestys Revenue of Quitrents for the Year 1753 and have Compared every article with its proper Voucher produced by Philip Grymes Esq.r Receiver General and find the Charge thereof amounting to Eleven thousand six hundred fifty three pounds three shillings & four pence and the Discharge to Six thousand two hundred forty one pounds thirteen shillings & ten pence both truly stated. So that there is due to his Majesty's Revenue for Ballance of this Acco.t Five thousand four hundred and nine pounds seven shillings & sixpence Sterling

John Blair D. Aud.r

November 6.th, 1754.

The within Acco.t Compared and Examined by John Blair Esq.r Deputy Auditor was produced in Council and Sworn to by Philip Grymes Esq.r Receiver General.

Rob.t Dinwiddie.

Endorsed. Virginia. / Account of His Majesty's / Revenue of Quit Rents, &c. / arising in Virginia, for the / Year 1753. / Rec.d with Lieu.t Gov.r Dinwiddie's / Letter, dated y.e 16.th Nov.r 1754. / Rec.d Jan.y y.e 13.th / Read ——— 14.th } 1755. / W. 179. / 8.

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Acco.t of his Majestys Revenue of 2/ ℔ hogshead &c: arising within this [P.264] Colony of Virginia from the 25th of October 1754 to the 25th of April 1755.

The Receiver General doth Charge himself with the Receipt of the said Revenue as follows.

To Ballance of the last Acco.t	£	5148	9 4
The acco.t of the Upper District of James River		541	9 9
The Accot. of the Lower District of James River		174	11 10
The Accot. of the District of York River		302	11 2
The Accot. of the District of Rappahannock River		148	8 –
The Accot. of the District of South Potomack		300	5 10
The Acco.t of the Port of Accomack		...	– –
The Accot. of Sundry Rights of Land Sold		316	2 8
The Accot. of Fines and Forfeitures		52	2 7
	£	6974	1 5

The Receiver General doth Discharge himself By the Payment of the following Sums

By a Warrant for half a years Salary to the Governor	£	1000	– –
By a Warrant for Ditto to the Gentlemen of the Council		600	– –
By a Warr.t to the Judges & other officers of a Court of Oyer & Terminer		100	– –
By a Warrant to the Right Honble Horatio Walpole Esq.r Auditor of the plantations for half a years Salary		50	– –
By a Warrant to James Abercrombie Esq.r Sollicitor of the Virginia Affairs for half a years Salary		100	– –
By a Warr.t to Peyton Randolph Esq.r his Majestys Attorney Gen.l for Ditto		25	– –
By a Warr.t to Nath.l Walthoe Esq.r Clerk of the Council for Ditto		50	– –

By a Warrant to the Adjutants for half a years Salary	160	-	-
By a Warrant to Joseph Davenport Armourer for Ditto	6	-	-
By a Warrant to the Gunners of the Batteries for Ditto	18	10	-
By a Warrant to the Ministers attending one General Court . . .	10	-	-
By a Warrant for repairs done to the Governor's House . . .	88	15	2
By a Warrant for Contingent Charges	1798	3	9
By Allowance to the Receiver General of ½ p C^{t} on £1463. 4. 10 for Negotiating the same in Bills of Exchange in London	7	6	4
By Allowance to the Auditor at 5 p C^{t} on £1825. 11. 10	91	5	7
By Allowance to the Receiver General on the same Sum	91	5	7
So that the Sum Disburst amounts to	£4206	5	11
And there will remain due to Ballance this Acco^{t}	£2767	15	6
	£6974	1.	5

Philip Grymes Rec^{t} Gen^{l}

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Accot of His Majestys Revenue of Quitrents &c. arising [1771]
within this Colony of Virginia for the Year 1754.

The Receiver General doth Charge himself
with the Receipt of the said Revenue as follows.

To Ballance of the last Accot		£ 5	11 7 6
To the Quitrents of the Northern Neck for ye Year 1754.		6	13 4
To the Accot of Compositions for Escheated Lands		29	13 3

Quitrents for the Year 1754.

Counties Names	Acres paid	Paid in Money	Sheriffs Allowance	Amount
Amelia	200000	£ 200	£ 20	£ 180
Augusta	------	£ ----	----	----
Albemarle	60000	£ 60	£ 6	54
Accomack	233788	£ 233 6 9	£ 23 7 6	210 9 3
Brunswick	296072	£ 296 1 6	£ 29 12 2	266 9 4
Bedford	------	----	----	----
Caroline	------	----	----	----
Charles City	------	----	----	----
Cumberland	200000	£ 200	£ 20	180
Chesterfield	254819	£ 254 16 5	£ 25 9 8	229 6 9
Dinwiddie	50000	£ 50	£ 5	45
Elizabeth City	32920	£ 32 18 5	£ 3 5 10	29 12 7
Essex	142334	£ 142 6 8	£ 14 4 8	128 2
Gloucester	------	----	----	----
Goochland	120000	£ 120	£ 12	108
Hanover	251890	£ 251 7 10	£ 25 3 9	226 14 1

Counties Names	Acres paid	Paid in Money	Sheriffs Allowance	Amount
Henrico	22241	£ 122 4 10	£ 12 14 6	110 - 14
Hallifax	------	--- - -	-- - -	--- - -
James City	87178	£ 87 3 7	£ 8 14 14	78 9 3
Isle of Wight	110000	£ 110 - -	£ 11 - -	99 - -
King William	140232	£ 140 14 8	£ 14 - 5	126 14 3
King & Queen	80000	£ 80 - -	£ 8 - -	72 - -
Louisa	230000	£ 230 - -	£ 23 - -	207 - -
Lunenburgha	55000	£ 55 - -	£ 5 10 -	49 10 -
Middlesex	74946	£ 74 18 11	£ 7 9 10	67 9 1
Nansemond	140000	£ 140 - -	£ 14 - -	126 - -
Norfolk	------	--- - -	-- - -	--- - -
Northampton	105667	£ 105 13 4	£ 10 11 4	95 2 -
New Kent	100000	£ 100 - -	£ 10 - -	90 - -
Orange	------	--- - -	-- - -	--- - -
Prince George	------	--- - -	-- - -	--- - -
Princess Ann	105000	£ 105 - -	£ 10 10 -	94 10 -
Prince Edward	------	--- - -	--- - -	--- - -
Spotsylvania	239354	£ 239 7 1	£ 23 18 8	215 8 5
Surry	------	--- - -	-- - -	--- - -
Southampton	211516	£ 211 10 4	£ 21 3 -	190 7 4
Sussex	190000	£ 190 - -	£ 19 - -	171 - -
Warwick	39561	£ 39 11 2	£ 3 19 1	35 12 1
York	40000	£ 40 - -	£ 4 - -	36 - -
				3521 5 9
				£ 3968 19 10

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Brought Over. . . . . £8968 19 10 [p 395]

Arrears of Quitrents paid in the year 1754

Counties Names	Acres paid	Paid in Money	Sheriffs Allowances	Amount
Amelia.	12970 7	£ 129 15 9	£ 12 19 7	£ 116 16 2
Augusta.	270000	£ 270 - -	£ 27 - -	243 - -
Albemarle. . . .	260901	£ 260 18 -	£ 26 1 9	234 16 3
Brunswick. . . .	3826	£ 3 16 6	£ 0 7 8	3 8 10
Caroline.	100000	£ 100 - -	£ 10 - -	90 - -
Cumberland . . .	60000	£ 60 - -	£ 6 - -	54 - -
Chesterfield. . .	2055	£ 2 1 1	£ 0 4 1	1 17 -
Dinwiddie. . .	10342	£ 103 8 3	£ 10 6 10	93 1 5
Elizabeth City. .	1055	£ 1 1 1	£ 0 2 1	- 19 -
Gloucester. . 1750	10653	£ 10 13 1	£ 1 1 4	9 11 9
Hanover.	5231	£ 5 4 7	£ 0 10 5	4 14 2
James City. .	175	£ 0 3 6	£ 0 - 4	- 3 2
Ditto	28037	£ 28 - 1	£ 2 16 -	25 4 1
King William	8836	£ 8 16 8	£ 0 17 8	7 19 -
Ditto 1751	71013	£ 71 - 3	£ 7 2 -	63 18 3
Middlesex . . .	1320	£ 1 6 5	£ 0 2 7	1 3 10
Norfolk	71380	£ 71 7 7	£ 7 2 9	64 4 10
Northampton.	762	£ 0 15 3	£ 0 1 6	13 9
Orange	120000	£ 120 - -	£ 12 - -	108 - -
Ditto 1748	110000	£ 110 - -	£ 11 - -	99 - -
Ditto 1749	230000	£ 230 - -	£ 23 - -	207 - -
Princess Ann . .	43367	£ 43 7 4	£ 4 6 9	39 - 7

Counties Names	Acres paid	Paid in Money	Sheriffs Allowances	Amount
Spotsylvania...	2650	£ 2 13 -	£ 0 5 3	2 7 9
Southampton...	29133	£ 29 2 8	£ 2 18 8	26 4 5
Wilts.... 1752	53840	£ 53 16 10	£ 5 7 8	48 9 2
Warwicke.....	3721	£ 3 14 5	£ 0 7 6	3 7 -
Yorke.....1752	8183	£ 8 3 8	£ 0 16 4	7 7 4
Litts.....1751	35699	£ 35 14 -	£ 3 11 5	32 2 7
				1588. 10. 4.
				£ 10557. 10. 2.

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Receiver General doth Discharge himself

By paid to the Right Honble Horatio Walpole Esqr. on his Majesty's Warrant one years allowance ending the 25th of October 1755	£	150	- -
By paid to Mr. Commissary Dawson on his Majesty's Warrant one years Salary ending the 25th of October 1755		100	- -
By two Warrants to the Attorney General for one years Salary ending the 25th. of October 1755		70	- -
By his Majesty's Warrant dated at St. James's the 3d day of April 1755 for paying to James West Esqr. or to his Assigns ...		4770	- -
By Allowance to the Receiver General of 6⅔ p.c. on £306. for Arrears received in this Accot. settled for before the present regulation		20	8 -
By Allowance of ½ p.c. on £4631..10..6 for Negotiating the Bills of Exchange in London		23	3 2
By Allowance to the Auditor at 5 p.c. on £5146..2..8		257	6 1
By Allowance to the Receiver General on the same Sum..		257	6 1
So that the Sum Disbursed amounts to	£	5648	3 4
And there will remain due to Ballance this Accot.		4909	6 10
	£	10557	10 2

Philip Grymes Recr. Genl.

[p. 200]

I have Examined the within Acco.t of his Majesty's Revenue of Quitrents for the year 1754 and have Compared every Article with its proper Voucher produced by Philip Grymes Esq.r Receiver General and find the Charge thereof amounting to Ten Thousand five hundred fifty seven pounds ten Shillings & two pence, and the Discharge to Five thousand six hundred forty eight pounds three Shillings and four pence both truly stated So that there is due to his Majesty's Revenue for Ballance of this Acco.t four thousand nine hundred nine pounds six Shillings and ten pence Sterling.

John Blair D. Audt

November 11th 1755.

The within Acco.t Compared and Examined by John Blair Esq.r Deputy Auditor was produced to me in Council and sworn to by Philip Grymes Esq.r Receiver General.

Robt. Dinwiddie.

[p. 402]

Endorsed. Virginia. / Account of His Majesty's / Re-venue of Quit Rents, &c.a / arising within the Colony of / Virginia, for y.e year 1754 / Rec.d with Lieut. Gov.r Dinwiddies / Letter dated 15th Nov.r 1755. / Rec.d Jan.y 14 y.e ... } 1756. / Read —— 28 } W. 201.

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Acco.t of his Majestys Revenue of 2s. 6d. p hogshead &c. Arising within this Colony of Virginia from the 25th. of April to the 25th. of October 1755

The Receiver General doth Charge himself with the Receipt of the said Revenue as follows	
To Ballance of the last acco.t	£2767.. 15.. 6.
The Accot. of the Upper District of James River	1020.. 17.. 8
The Accot. of the Lower District of James River	250.. 18.. 2
The Accot. of the District of York River	1398 6 -
The Accot. of the District of Rappahannock River	248 10 7
The Accot. of the District of South Potomacke	268 1 11
The Accot. of the Port of Accomack	33 19 1
The Accot. of Sundry Rights of Land Sold	384 15 4
The Accot. of Fines and Forfeitures	259 7 2
	£7732 17 5
The Receiver General doth Discharge himself by the Payment of the following Sums.	
By a Warrant for half a Years Salary to the Governor	£ 1000 - -
By a Warrant for Ditto to the Gentlemen of the Council	600 - -
By a Warr.t to the Judges & other Officers of a Court of Oyer & Terminer	100 - -
By a Warrant to the Right Honourable Horatio Walpole Esq.r Auditor of the Plantations for half a years Salary	50 - -
By a Warrant to James Abercrombie Esq.r Solicitor of the Virginia affairs for half a years Salary	100 - -
By a Warr.t to Peyton Randolph Esq.r his Majestys Attorney General for Do.	35 - -
By a Warrant to Nath.l Walthoe Esq.r Clerk of the Council for Ditto	50 - -

By a Warrant to the Adjutants for half a years Salary.....	160	-	-
By a Warrant to Joseph Davenport Armourer for Ditto.....	6	-	-
By a Warrant to the Gunners of the Batteries for Ditto.....	18	10	-
By a Warrt to the Ministers attending one General Court & Assembly.....	30	-	-
By a Warrant for Repairs done to the Governor's house...	71	2	3
By a Warrant for Contingent Charges.....	1040	12	9
By a Warrant for paying to the Right Honourable Wm. liam Endorsed by me payable at Mr Hanburys	2000	-	-
By allowance to the Receiver General of ½ pCt on £4262.9..5. for negociating the same in Bills of Exchange in London.....	21	6	3
By Allowance to the Auditor at 5 pCt on £4965..1..11..	248	5	1
By Allowance to the Receiver General on the same Sum	248	5	1
So that the Sum Disburst amounts to..	£5779	1	5
And there will remain due to Ballance this Acct	1953	16	-
	£7732	17	5

Philip Grymes Rect Genl

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

I have Examined the within Acco.t of his Majes.[illegible]
ty's Revenue Commencing the 25 th of April 1755
and ending the 25 th of October 1755 and have
Compared every Article with its proper Voucher
produced by Philip Grymes Esq.r Receiver General
and find the Charge thereof amounting to
Seven thousand seven hundred thirty two
Pounds seventeen shillings & five pence and the
Discharge to Five thousand seven hundred
seventy nine pounds one shilling & five pence
both truly Stated So that there is due to his
Majesty's Revenue for Ballance of this Acco.t One
thousand nine hundred fifty three Pounds
sixteen shillings Sterling

John Blair D. Aud.r

November 11 th 1755.

The within Acco.t Compared & Examined by John
Blair Esq.r Deputy Auditor was produced to me in
Council & Sworn to by Philip Grymes Esq.r Receiver General

Robt. Dinwiddie

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

[Page 106]

Endorsed. Virginia. / Account of His Majesty's Revenue of 2s. p Hhd Vca arising / within ye Colony of Virginia, from / ye 25th of April to ye 25th of October / 1755. / Recd with Lieut. Govr Dinwiddie's / Letr dated ye 15th Novr 1755. / Recd Janry ye .. } 1756. / W. 202.
Read — 28 }

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Accot of his Majestys Revenue of 2d 1/2 Hogshead &c Arising [Rays] within this Colony of Virginia from the 25th of October 1755 to the 25th of April 1756.

The Receiver General doth Charge himself with the Receipt of the said Revenue as follows			
To Ballance of the last Accot	£	195	16 -
The Accot of the Upper District of James River		195	13 3
The Accot of the Lower District of James River		161	7 5
The Accot of the District of York River		103	3 2
The Accot of the District of Rappahannock River		203	11 10
The Accot of the District of South Potomack		344	16 7
The Accot of the Port of Accomack			
The Accot of Sundry Rights of Land sold		288	17 11
The Accot of Fines and Forfeitures		37	11 11
Received of the Treasurer for so much lent him on this Accot 16 October 1754		2000	
	£	5288	17 2
The Receiver General doth Discharge himself by the Payment of the following Sums.			
By a Warrant for half a years Salary to the Governor	£	1000	- -
By a Warrant for Ditto to the Gentlemen of the Council		600	- -
By a Warrt to the Judges & other Officers of a Court of Oyer & Terminer		100	- -
By a Warrant to the Right Honourable Horatio Walpole Esqr Auditor of the Plantations for half a Years Salary		50	- -
By a Warrant to James Abercrombie Esqr Sollicitor of the Virginia affairs for half a years Salary		100	- -

By a Warr.t to Peyton Randolph Esq.r his Majesty's Attorney Gen.l for Ditto	35	-	-
By a Warrant to Nathaniel Walthoe Esq.r Clerk of the Council for Ditto	50	-	-
By a Warrant to the adjutants for half a years Salary	160	-	-
By a Warrant to Joseph Davenport Armourer for Ditto	6	-	-
By a Warrant to the Gunners of the Batteries for Ditto	18	10	-
By a Warrant to the Ministers attending one General Court & Assembly	14	-	-
By a Warrant for Repairs done to the Governors House	33	5	4
By a Warrant for Contingent charges	298	18	9
By Allowance to the Auditor at 6 p.c.t on £1335..1..2	66	15	-
By Allowance to the Receiver General on the same Sum	66	15	-
So that the Sum Disburst amounts to	£5195	4	1
And there will remain due to Ballance this Accot	93	17	1
	£5288	1	2

Philip Grymes Rec.r Gen.l

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

I have Examined the within Acco.t of his Majestys Revenue [Pa. 6]
Commencing the 25 th of October 1755 & ending the 25th of October
1756, and have Compared every Article with its proper Voucher
produced by Philip Grymes Esq.r Receiver General and find
the Charge thereof amounting to Five thousand two hun-
.dred Eighty Eight pounds Seventeen shillings & two pe...
and the Discharge to Five thousand one hundred
ninety five pounds four Shillings & one penny both
truly stated So that there is due to his Majestys
Revenue for Ballance of this Accot Ninety three
pounds thirteen Shillings and one penny Sterling -

John Blair D. Aud.r

May 4th 1756.

The within Acco.t Compared & Examined by
John Blair Esq.r Deputy Auditor was produced to me in
Council and sworn to by Philip Grymes Esq.r Receiver General.

Robt Dinwiddie

[Pu??]Endorsed. Virginia. / Account of his Majesty's / Revenue of 2d. p Hogshead, arising / in Virginia, from ye 25th Octbr. 1755. to / ye 25th April 1756. / Recd with Lieut Govr Din-widdies / Letr. dated ye 11 June 1756. / Recd Augst 2d / Read Octo: 8 } 1756. /

W. 21 y.

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REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Bdh. 479-517)

A TREATY

Held with the

Catawba and Cherokee Indians,

at the

Catawba Town and Broad-River,

in the

Months of February and March 1756.

By Virtue of a Commission granted by the Honorable Robert Dinwiddie, Esquire, His Majesty's Lieutenant-Governor, and Commander in Chief of the Colony and Dominion of Virginia, to the Honorable Peter Randolph and William Byrd, Esquires, Members of His Majesty's Council of the said Colony.

Published by Order of the Governor.

Royal Arms

Williamsburg: Printed by W. Hunter. M, DCC, LVI.

[quarto pamphlet t. p. and iii to xiv; 1–25.] not transcribed.

Endorsed. (Con 118) Received with W. Dinwiddie's Lre / dated 11 June 1756. / Recd August 2d. / Read Octr 8 } 1756 / W. 218. /